



Background:

Antioch was the center for missionary activities, and the base for Paul's ministries. The leaders in the church at Antioch were very diverse in background, and in race.

As the church was fasting and praying, waiting to hear from God, He spoke to them, asking them to send out their best. Paul was obviously gifted as an evangelist, and Barnabas was a gifted encourager. The church was told to set them apart, to prepare them to leave. Keep in mind, in that time, when missionaries left, there was every possibility they might never return, or it might be years before they did return.

We must remember that, as Christians, what we do is centered on moving the kingdom of God forward. As difficult as it may have been for the church to send out their best, they were committed to obedience to the Lord, even when that obedience was costly. Opposition to the gospel, for selfish reasons, is common in Acts.

Cyprus was the homeland of Barnabas, and Salamis was the largest city on the eastern side of Cyprus. Paphos was about 100 miles from there.

This was a personal call for Paul, a congregational affirmation for that ministry, and God's plan for the early church. Paul's true and strong teaching was led by the Holy Spirit, and thus very effective.



Opening Questions:

When was the last time you had to say goodbye to someone you loved, who was going away for a long trip? How did you feel?

How are you fitting into God's plan for spreading the gospel, and advancing God's Kingdom?

Have you ever felt like God has called you to a particular area of ministry? How did you answer that call?

"GET OUT THERE"

To "go" into our communities and make His name famous.

Notes are available online at baylife.org/go and on our mobile app



Read Acts 13:1-3

How committed are you to the work and mission of Bay Life?
How often do you pray for our missionaries? Make a point to pray for our short-term mission trips this summer.

Read Acts 13:4-12

Why do you think there was so much opposition to the gospel message in the early church?

What opposition does the message of the gospel face in the twenty-first century?

Read Luke 3:21-22; Acts 1:1; Acts 2:1-41

What part does prayer play in launching a ministry?

Where do we see the Holy Spirit's active involvement in these ministries?



Life Change:

How can you actively pray for the church's missionary efforts?
How is God calling you to help spread the gospel?



Getting Out There:

This week, we commissioned several teams that are going out in the summer and fall. As Christians, all of us are called to serve the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Pray that God would give you opportunities this summer to "get out there" in the community and make His name famous.



Family Moments:

Elementary: Read Acts 13:2-3.

What is a mission trip? What missions does Bay Life have?

*As a family, pray for mission trips going out this summer.

Pray for their protection and ability to spread God's message in our world.

Teen: Read Acts 13:2-3.

With what family in our community may God be calling our family to share His love and truth this summer?

*As a family, pray that God would use you to go to these people and share the love and message of Jesus with them.