



Background:

A group of Jews, from the other cities Paul and his team visited, just couldn't let go of their jealousy, and they followed Paul and Barnabas to Lystra. They stirred up the Jews there, and this time, succeeded in stoning Paul. But Paul's faith held strong, and he survived, moving on to Derbe.

Many were saved in Derbe, and when Paul and Barnabas left, they headed back through the areas they had previously visited. As they came through, the team preached the gospel, and set up a leadership structure to enable the churches to continue to grow.



Read Acts 14:19–22

How do you think Paul and Barnabas went about strengthening and encouraging the disciples?

What does it mean to be true to the faith?

Read Acts 14:23-28

What was the significance of prayer and fasting as Paul and Barnabas committed the elders to the Lord?

What experiences have you had with the disciplines of prayer and fasting?

Read Romans 12:9-13; 1 Timothy 3:1-13

In your own words, what do you think the qualifications of elders and deacons are?

What were the characteristics of early elders? Is this still a realistic expectation for elders?



Life Change:

Who are you encouraging in the faith? How are you encouraging them?

Who is encouraging you in the faith? If you do not have someone to encourage you, reach out and find a Discippler.

Are there any parts of these Scriptures that you do not understand?



Getting Out There:

Paul and Barnabas took the time to share with the church what God was doing through them. As you are praying for opportunities and sharing the gospel with those around you, take some time to share what God is doing through you with another person. Please send your stories to missions@baylife.org so that we can celebrate with you! (Teams “out there” this week: HS Kentucky, HS Georgia, Uganda 1)



Family Moments:

Elementary: Read Acts 14:21-22.

Is being a Christ follower easy? Is it easy to share the Gospel with others? When things were difficult, who did Paul and Barnabas rely on and who did they ask for help?

*Pray as a family and allow each person to talk to God about something that is hard for them. Ask God to help you to encourage, remind, and pray for each other that God is always with you to help you through struggles.

Teen: Read Acts 14:21-22.

What did the disciples do when they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch?

How can we, as a family, encourage and strengthen another family of believers in our church this week?