

2024 - Family Devo

June 23 - a

READ: Acts 13:34-52

Main Idea: Paul continues his speech at the synagogue and tells them of God's wonderful plan to save people from their sins through faith in Jesus. The Jews asked them to come the next Saturday and share more, but when that day came, and many Gentiles from the town came as well, the Jews became jealous and turned on Paul's message. Paul and Barnabas boldly declared they were to go to the Jews first but would now be sharing the gospel with the Gentiles, who were eager to accept it.

DISCUSS

Children: The Jews were the chosen people of God. They might have believed Paul if he hadn't told them that the Gentiles were now also chosen people of God. It's hard to stop believing that you are the only 'special' people out there. They tried to make the Jews understand, but they didn't care, they just wanted them to leave! The Gentiles were happy to be included.

Teen: Again, we see the message of Jesus being interrupted because of jealousy, and the guilty one being negatively affected because of their actions. But will the word of God be stopped? How does God make good what some mean for bad?

Adult: Paul must have been an awe-inspiring speaker. He drew the Jews through their history and then tied it into Jesus' death and resurrection. The Jews invited him to return and some followed Paul and Barnabas to continue the discussion that very day. Why do you think so many of the non-Jews came the next Sabbath? What were they wanting to hear? Why were the Jews jealous that so many showed to hear Paul speak?

PRAY

MEMORIZE

Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.



2024 - Family Devo

June 23 - b



READ: Acts 14:1-7

Main Idea: At Iconium Paul and Barnabas share the Gospel at the synagogue and have good response from Jews and Gentiles. But soon some of the Jews turned away from the message and convinced some Gentiles to do the same. Eventually the conflict became so great they had to leave and go elsewhere (Lystra and Derbe). Notice they continue to preach the gospel after every bad experience they have.

DISCUSS

Children: Paul and Barnabas face difficulties in Iconium and Lystra but continue to share the Good News because they are empowered with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit had given Paul and Barnabas courage to do the work God called them to do. We must not think because the verse says they quickly left to mean they were afraid of possible physical danger. The passage doesn't tell us but most likely they quickly left Iconium because they were obeying the Holy Spirit's instructions for them to continue to go to other places to share the Good News. God helps us stick to our mission, even when things get hard.

Teen: Who was testifying? Through what means was he testifying? Are you allowing God to testify through you?

Adult: Many of the translations say the non-believing Jews poisoned the minds of the Gentiles. What an interesting thought. How do you think they poisoned the minds? What types of things did they say about the apostles? Do you think it was in big meetings or whispered one person to another? Which do you think would be more effective in our day and time?

PRAY

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