

The gospel does not relate to the rest of Christian truth as the first step relates to a staircase, but rather as the heart relates to the rest of the circulatory system (or as the brain relates to the nervous system). The rest of Christian truth is just an unfolding of the gospel — it is the working out of its implications and ramifications, intellectually, spiritually, behaviorally.

Thinking & talking through the biblical text during the week helps turn what God is saying into action steps. Here are some questions to get you started.

Reflection Questions

- What questions and comments do you have about the sermon and supporting texts? What stands out to you in **Acts 14**?

Read **Acts 14**

- What was Paul and Barnabas' routine when they came to a new city (see also **13:4-5, 13-16**)?
- What changed when they went to Lystre & Derbe?
- What was the purpose of the miracle in **14:8-10**?
- Why did the crowd call Paul and Barnabas Zeus and Hermes and try to make sacrifices on their behalf?
- The question we have asked in this passage is: "How will God use me for his kingdom today?"
 - How do we respond when people disagree with us?
 - How do we respond when people misunderstand us?
 - How did Paul and Barnabas respond to the crowd?
 - What did Paul say in his talk? What stands out to you about how he announced the gospel?
- How do you respond to the following statements?
 - *"Whenever anything new comes into our lives, it is inevitable that we will interpret it according to our past."*
 - *"Sometimes what we think about God comes more from stories that others tell than from God's Word & God"*
 - *"The greatest obstacle to our experience of God is our last experience of God."*
- Trace the places Paul and Barnabas went in this chapter. Do you see any significance in this and the things they did in these places?
- Why do new things, especially new expressions of God at work, frighten us?

Thinking & living a little deeper

- **Acts 14** highlights that we have an enemy that will do whatever he can to deny the truth about Jesus. How do we keep the focus on him and Practice Resurrection?
- How do you understand the quote on the top of the other side?