

STUDYING THE BOOK OF ACTS ***IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS***

Lesson 35 – In Iconium - [Acts 14:1-7](#)

Read the following verses in the Last Days Bible or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

Paul and Barnabas in Iconium

14 Again, in Iconium, Paul and Barnabas went together to the synagogue, and spoke so effectively that a great number of both Jews and Gentiles believed.

² But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against those who now followed the Lord.

³ Just the same, Paul and Barnabas stayed there a long time, continuing to speak out boldly for the Lord. And the Lord continued to confirm the message of His great kindness by enabling them to perform miracles and wonders.

⁴ But the people of the city were divided in opinion about them, some siding with the Jews and some with the apostles.

⁵ Finally, an attack was planned by some of the Jews and Gentiles, together with their leaders. They planned to mistreat Paul and Barnabas shamefully, and then stone them to death.

⁶ But when they learned about it, they made their escape to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region.

⁷ There they continued to tell the Great News.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 35 – In Iconium - [Acts 14:1-7](#)

560. At Iconium, where did Paul and Barnabas go? ([14:1](#))

561. Where did the apostles begin telling others about Christ? ([14:1](#))

562. Who became believers at Iconium? Why? ([14:1](#))

563. How did unbelievers oppose what Paul and Barnabas were doing? ([14:2](#))

564. How did the apostles respond to the opposition? ([14:3](#))

565. What did the Lord enable Paul and Barnabas to do? Why? ([14:3](#))
566. How was the city divided? ([14:4](#))
567. What did certain people plot against the apostles? ([14:5](#))
568. When Paul and Barnabas discovered the plot against them, what did they do? ([14:6](#))
569. Despite the setback Paul and Barnabas suffered, what did they do in Lystra and Derbe? ([14:6-7](#))

Lesson 36 - In Lystra and Derbe - [Acts 14:8-20](#)

In Lystra and Derbe

⁸There was a man in Lystra who had no strength in his feet. He had been born disabled, so he had never walked.

⁹Paul noticed the man as he sat there listening to him speak. And, looking intently at him, Paul could see that the man had faith to be healed.

¹⁰So Paul shouted to him, “Get up on your feet *and stand erect!*” And the man jumped up and started walking!

¹¹When the crowd saw what Paul had just done, they cried out in the Lycaonian language, “The gods have come down to us in the form of men!”

¹²They called Barnabas, Zeus; and Paul, Hermes, because he was the main speaker.

¹³Then the priest of Zeus, whose Temple stood just outside the city near the main entrance, brought some bulls and flowers to the city gates because he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

¹⁴But when Barnabas and Paul heard about it, they ripped their clothes in horror and ran shouting into the crowd.

¹⁵“Men! Why are you doing this?” they shouted. “We’re only men! We’re just as human as you are! We’re here preaching the Great News that you should turn from these worthless idols to the living God, who made Heaven, and the earth, the sea, and everything in them.

¹⁶“In times past, He allowed everyone everywhere to go their own way.

¹⁷“But He has always given us proof that He is with us, by the good things He constantly does for us, by giving us rain from the skies, and the various crops in their seasons. He has literally filled us with food and happiness.”

¹⁸Still they had a hard time keeping the people from sacrificing to them, even after speaking to them in this way.

¹⁹But a few days later, some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium. And after turning the crowds into a blood-thirsty, riotous mob, they stoned Paul and then dragged him out of the city, believing him to be dead.

²⁰But as the Lord's followers gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day, he and Barnabas went to Derbe.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 36 - In Lystra and Derbe - [Acts 14:8-20](#)

570. What did Paul do for the crippled man in Lystra? ([14:8-10](#))
571. How did the crowd respond to what Paul had done? ([14:11-13](#))
572. Why were the apostles horrified when they discovered what was happening? ([14:14](#))
573. Why did Paul and Barnabas tear their clothes? ([14:14](#))
574. What was the apostles' message to the crowd? ([14:15-17](#))
575. How did Paul tailor his message to the audience? ([14:15-17](#))
576. In spite of the apostles' message, why was it difficult to restrain the crowd? ([14:18](#))
577. Who came from Antioch and Iconium to poison the minds of the people against the missionaries? ([14:19](#))
578. What did the crowd do to Paul? ([14:19](#))
579. Who helped Paul? ([14:20](#))
580. When did Paul return to Lystra? ([14:20](#))
581. After Paul and Barnabas left Lystra, where did they go? ([14:20](#))

Lesson 37 - The Return to Antioch in Syria - [Acts 14:21-28](#)

The Return to Antioch in Syria

²¹As they preached the Great News to the people of that city, it resulted in many becoming followers of the Lord. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch.

²²There they strengthened the understanding and will of the followers, urgently encouraging them to continue in the faith.* "Because," they said, "in order to enter

the Kingdom of God, we must be willing to go through severe testings and sufferings.”*

Acts 14:22 – “Continue in faith.” See Jn. 8:31; Col. 1:23; 1 Jn. 2:24. “Go through severe testings and sufferings.” We suffer when we experience abuse and rejection because of our stand for Jesus. Jesus suffered on the cross to remove our guilt, but when we accept God’s forgiveness of our sins through Jesus we must then be willing and determined to follow Christ even if it means suffering.

²³After praying and fasting, they appointed elders to take charge in every church, and then turned them over to the Lord in whom they had believed.

²⁴Then they went back thru Pisidia and into the province of Pamphylia.

²⁵After they had preached the Lord’s message in Perga, they went down to Attalia.

²⁶From Attalia they sailed back to Antioch in Syria, from where they had been confidently given over by their fellow-believers to God’s favor and help for the accomplishment of the work they had now completed.

²⁷Upon arriving home, they gathered the people of the church together and told them all that God, working through them, had done, and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

²⁸They then stayed home with the followers for quite some time.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 37 - The Return to Antioch in Syria - [Acts 14:21-28](#)

582. What did Paul and Barnabas do in Derbe? ([14:21](#))
583. What was the result of the apostles’ evangelism? ([14:21](#))
584. Why did Paul and Barnabas retrace their steps to Antioch? ([14:22](#))
585. What kind of warnings did the missionaries give the young converts? ([14:22](#))
586. How did the apostles establish leadership in the young churches? ([14:23](#))
587. What encouragement and help did the apostles give the new Christians? ([14:22-23](#))
588. Where did the return journey to Antioch take the apostles? ([14:24-26](#))
589. On their way to Antioch, where did the apostles preach? ([14:25](#))
590. When they returned to Antioch, what did Paul and Barnabas do? ([14:27](#))

591. Why was it important that Paul and Barnabas report on their activity to the church at Antioch? ([14:26](#))

592. How long did the apostles remain in Antioch? ([14:28](#))