

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

24-28 March 2003

ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT #11 – BROAD SOWING & MULTIPLICATION

INTRODUCTION:

- How did you feel when your friends were deployed on a wartime mission and you were not?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION:

Note: *The first 12 chapters of Acts centered on events that happened in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria. The church grew after Pentecost to thousands. Persecution resulted in the message being spread throughout the region. Barnabas and Saul had just spent a year teaching the large numbers of new believers in Antioch. It was there that God called them along with John Mark on their first missionary journey. Chapter 13 begins the admonition of the remainder of Acts 1:8 to go to the utter most parts of the earth.*

Read Acts 13:1-12

- What were the prophets and teachers doing in Antioch?
- What instructions did the Holy Spirit give them?
- What was the response of all who were gathered there?
- Describe the situation Barnabas and Paul encountered in Paphos.
- What does Saul accuse Elymas of doing? How was the matter settled?

Note: *Paul delivers his first recorded sermon from verses 16-41. His message was similar to Stephen's message in Acts 7 in that he too recounted the history of Israel (the Word of God) and exalted the person of Jesus Christ.*

Read Acts 13:42-51

- How did the people respond to this message? (42, 43)
- What response did they receive on the next Sabbath? Explain.
- How did the Gentiles respond to Paul's announcement
- How did the unbelieving Jews get rid of Paul and Barnabas?
- How did the new missionaries respond to their expulsion?
- If your efforts to sow and multiply are hindered, how should you respond?

APPLICATION:

- "While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit..." gave them instructions. What can we do to enhance our individual or collective worship and prayer?
- Develop some thoughts for when is it right to strongly confront people who oppose the faith?

But you shall receive power – ability, efficiency, and might – when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends – the very bounds – of the earth.

Acts 1:8
The Amplified