



PAUL BECAME A MISSIONARY



Acts 13-14

After Saul left Damascus, he first traveled to Jerusalem and then to Tarsus. Later, Barnabas brought Saul to Antioch. Saul, who was also known by his Roman name, Paul, was with the church in Antioch. The Holy Spirit chose Paul and another believer, Barnabas, for a special work. So they obeyed and left Antioch. God led Paul and Barnabas to tell the good news about Jesus to not only the Jews, but the Gentiles—or people who were not Jews.

Paul and Barnabas traveled to Lystra (LISS truh). Paul healed a man there who had never been able to walk. The people saw what Paul had done, and they thought Paul and Barnabas were gods! They began to worship them, but Paul and Barnabas tore their clothes and shouted, “No! We are not gods. We are men just like you! We want to tell you the good news of God.”

Then some people showed up from Antioch and Iconium (igh KOH nih uhm), cities where Paul and Barnabas had preached about Jesus. These people caused trouble so that the people in Lystra turned against Paul and Barnabas, too. They threw stones at Paul and dragged him out of the city. They thought he was dead, but the believers in Lystra gathered around Paul, and he got up.

The next day, Paul and Barnabas went to the city of Derbe (DUHR bih). They told people there about Jesus, and many people believed. Then Paul and Barnabas went back to Lystra and to Iconium. They encouraged the believers there to continue in the faith. They told the believers that they would face suffering because they believed in Jesus. Paul and Barnabas also chose leaders for the churches.



Big Picture Question:

Who can be saved? Anyone who trusts in Jesus can be forgiven of their sins and be right with God.



Christ Connection:

God had a plan for Paul to share the gospel with Gentiles, no matter what troubles he faced. Many believed in Jesus. The church grew and the gospel spread so that people all over the world could be saved from their sins by trusting in Jesus.