

Acts 13-21 - How the Church works

WEEK 2 - The pattern of the ministry and journeys

	JESUS' INSTRUCTIONS - LUKE 10	1st JOURNEY	2nd JOURNEY	3rd JOURNEY
Go into new cities / places	Luk 10:1 After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.	Antioch in Syria (Acts 13:1-3), Selucia (Acts 13:4), Cyprus, Salamis (Acts 13:5), Paphos (Acts 13:6), Perga (Acts 13:13), Antioch in Pisidia (Acts 13:14), Iconium (Acts 13:51), Lystra (Acts 14:6), Derbe (Acts 14:6 and Acts 14:20), then returned and strengthened all the above churches - Lystra, Iconium, Antioch in Pisidia, Perga, Attalia to Antioch (Acts 14:21 - 26)	Antioch (Acts 15:35-40), Derbe (Acts 16:1), Lystra (Acts 16:1), Phrygia and Galatia (Acts 16:6), Troas (Acts 16:8), Samothracia (Acts 16:11), Neapolis (Acts 16:11), Philippi (Acts 16:12), Amphipolis (Acts 17:1), Apollonia (Acts 17:1), Thessalonica (Acts 17:1), Berea (Acts 17:10), Athens (Acts 17:14-15), Corinth (Acts 18:1), Cenchrea (Acts 18:18), Ephesus (Acts 18:19), Caesarea (Acts 18:21-22), Antioch (Acts 18:22)	Antioch (Acts 18:23), Galatia and Phrygia (Acts 18:23), Upper coasts (Acts 19:1), Ephesus (Acts 19:1), Macedonia - Greece (Acts 20:1-2), Philippi (Acts 20:6), Troas (Acts 20:6), Assos (Acts 20:13), Mitylene (Acts 20:14), Chios (Acts 20:15), Samos Trogyllium Miletus Coos (Acts 21:1), Rhodes Patara Tyre (Acts 21:3), Ptolemais (Acts 21:7), Caessarea (Acts 21:8), Jerusalem (Acts 21:15)
Pray	Luk 10:2 Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.	There is almost no evidence of Paul and his associates praying... but he did ask others to pray for him.	1Th 5:25 Brethren, pray for us.  2Th 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you,	Eph 6:18 - 20 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints-- and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the

				mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.
Be wise AND innocent	Luk 10:3 "Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.		Act 16:37 But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us openly, uncondemned Romans, and have thrown us into prison. And now do they put us out secretly? No indeed! Let them come themselves and get us out."	
Don't worry about provision - the Lord will look after you	Luk 10:4 "Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.		Phil 4:11 - 19	
Look for a "person of peace" and let your peace rest on them. This means finding people who you have something in common with and who you can give your message to easily. For Paul it was Jews and religious	Luk 10:5 "But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.'  Luk 10:6 "And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.  Luk 10:7	[Act 13:5] 5 And when they arrived in Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. They also had John as [their] assistant. [Act 13:14, 46] 14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and sat down. ... 46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge	[Act 16:13] 13 And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met [there]. [Act 17:1-3, 17] 1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths	[Act 19:8] 8 And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.

<p>gentiles in synagogue first.</p>	<p>"And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house.</p> <p>Luk 10:8 "Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you.</p>	<p>yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. [Act 14:1] 1 Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed.</p>	<p>reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and [saying], "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ." ... [Act 17:10] 10 Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. Acts 17:17 Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the [Gentile] worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. [Act 18:4] 4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks.</p>	
<p>Proclaim and demonstrate the "kingdom of God has come" message by healing and delivering people from demons.</p>	<p>Luk 10:9 "And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'</p>	<p>Act 14:22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." [Act 13:9-12 ] 9 Then Saul, who also [is called] Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "O full of all deceit and all fraud, [you] son of the devil, [you] enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? 11 "And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord [is]</p>		<p>Act 19:8 And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God. Act 20:25 "And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more.</p>

		<p>upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time." And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand.</p> <p>12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the teaching of the Lord.</p>		
<p>Get rejected by jews, leave and preach to gentiles. Shake dust off feet.</p> <p>It's OK to shake dust off feet. Mat 18 verses. Paul and Barnabas. Move on.</p>	<p>Luk 10:10 -11</p> <p>"But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, 'The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.'</p>	<p>[Act 13:51] 51 But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium.</p>	<p>[Act 17:5] 5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.</p> <p>[Act 17:13] 13 But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds.</p> <p>[Act 18:6] 6 But when they opposed him and blasphemed, he shook [his] garments and said to them, "Your blood [be] upon your [own] heads; I [am] clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles."</p> <p>[Act 18:12 ] 12 When Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him to the judgment seat,</p>	<p>[Act 19:9 ] 9 But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of the Way before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.</p> <p>[Act 20:3 ] 3 and stayed three months. And when the Jews plotted against him as he was about to sail to Syria, he decided to return through Macedonia.</p>

<p>persecuted by Jews sometimes enjoy persecution, sometimes flee</p> <p>Religious people often oppose real spiritual life. characteristics of religious = pharisees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pride</li> <li>• judgemental</li> <li>• hypocrisy</li> </ul> <p>Two approaches to hardship - cf 1Cor 16:9 - great and effective door</p>		<p>[Act 13:45 ] 45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul.</p> <p>[Act 13:50 ] 50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and the chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region.</p> <p>[Act 14:2] 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brethren. [Act 14:3] 3 <b>Therefore</b> they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.</p> <p>[Act 14:5-6 ] 5 And <u>when a violent attempt</u> was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse and stone them, 6 they became aware of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region.</p> <p>Act 14:19 Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul [and] dragged [him] out of the city, supposing him to be dead.</p>	<p>[Act 17:5 ] 5 But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people.</p> <p>[Act 17:13 ] 13 But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds.</p>	
<p>There is joy and a church is started. Later they</p>		<p>Act 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>Act 15:3 So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through</p>	

<p>return to strengthen church and appoint elders</p> <p>Elders are <u>appointed</u> not voted in. There is ongoing Apostolic involvement in churches.</p>		<p>[Act 14:21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting [them] to continue in the faith, and [saying], "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." 23 So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.</p>	<p>Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren.</p>	
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What was Paul's message? And how did he communicate it?

- A message of GRACE - Acts 13:38, 39, Act 14:3, Act 18:27, Act 20:24, Act 20:32
- God is great, the CREATOR and ultimately the only true God. Acts 14:14-18; Acts 17:22-32; Acts 13:15 - 41
- The KINGDOM of God is here - ie. God should be King but the devil, who usurped this position, has been defeated by Jesus and we His people are now bringing this news rulership to you. Healing and deliverance are a key part of this. Act 14:22; Act 13:9-12; Act 19:8; Act 20:25
- We have all sinned and therefore we must all REPENT and receive this free gift to avoid judgement one day. Acts 17:30; 20:21
- When we receive this we can receive the gift of the HOLY SPIRIT and complete forgiveness and power. Acts 13:52; Acts 19:2
- It included a message that the hearers should also spread this message to THE WORLD. Acts 13:49; Acts 19:10

NOTE:

- When Paul was speaking to Jews he used Old Testament verses to prove these points. Acts 13:15 - 41
- When he was talking to non Jews he used nature, logic and even their own poems, beliefs and literature to make the same points. Acts 14:14-18; Acts 17:22-32

PLEASE ASK YOURSELF

- WHO - Who does the ministry, how do teams work, who are the elders and the church government positions. Can I be like one of the people described in these stories?
- WHAT - What did they do on a daily / weekly / long term basis? What is the church supposed to be doing? What doctrines and emphases did they have? Can I emulate this today?
- WHERE - Where did they met? Where did they travel? How does this apply to me and us today?

- HOW - The methods of church planting and growth. How were they supported financially? How were they guided by God? How did they go about doing what they did? Can we emulate this today?
- WHY - The motivation - the purpose and mission behind everything they did.
- WHEN - when did church meetings occur? How did they get guidance on when to do something for the Lord or when to wait?