

MAIN POINT

The church is sent out by the Holy Spirit to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

INTRODUCTION

Are all Christians called to share the gospel? Why or why not?

What do we learn about God from His desire to be known and to use us to make His name known?

When we think about what makes for a truly transformational church, a heart for the spread of the gospel is essential. If we're going to play an active part in kingdom building, then we must be sensitive to God's leadership and go where He tells us to go. But this isn't possible if we aren't listening to Him and seeking His will for our lives. Following Christ means we give up our rights to our plans and ambitions. Instead, we say to Jesus, "Where you send, I'll go."

DISCUSSION

> READ ACTS 13:1-52.

What was the scene when the Holy Spirit spoke to the leaders at Antioch? How might this context have set the stage for their hearing clearly from God?

What role does the Holy Spirit play in our fulfillment of God's vision for the gospel?

From verses 17-23, note all the things Paul said God had done. How did God's actions prepare the way for Paul to speak about Jesus in verse 23?

What do these things say about who God is, what He has done, and how He has provided for us?

What were the key elements of Paul's gospel presentation in verses 28-37?

In verses 38-39, what did Paul say was the central meaning of the resurrection?

How would you explain to an unbeliever the need for forgiveness?

What are some specific ways Paul's sermon should impact our evangelism efforts today?

What feelings and emotions were created by this sermon in the various groups of people mentioned in verses 42-51? Which response surprises you the most?

How did Paul persevere in this situation? How are we to persevere despite the various responses we might receive when sharing the gospel?

What influence has Paul's conviction to go to the Gentiles had on Christian missions and on your own salvation?

APPLICATION

How is God calling you to live on mission for Him this week? How will you respond?