

Acts Bible Study Discussion Questions

Chapter 14

Acts 14:1-7

1. "At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue." Why?
2. "...a great number of Jews and Gentiles believed." Gentiles?
3. Why do you suppose some of the Jews at Iconium were willing to believe Paul's message, but others "refused to believe"?
4. They "stirred up the Gentiles" — to what purpose? With what result?
5. Paul and Barnabas spent "considerable time" there — doing what?
6. What happened to end their time at Iconium?

Acts 14:8-20

7. What happened with the man who was crippled from birth? How did he have "faith to be healed"? How did Paul know it?
8. How did the people in the crowd react to the healing?
9. What did the priest of Zeus do?
10. Why did Paul and Barnabas have a hard time settling the crowd?
11. What changed the minds of the people in the crowd, and what did they do?
12. How did the Lystra episode end?

Acts 14:21-28

13. What pattern with regard to the church was established in Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and (Pisidian) Antioch?
14. Paul and Barnabas worked their way back to (Syrian) Antioch by way of Pisidia, Pamphylia, Perga, and Attalia. What did they do on this part of the journey?
15. What did they do after arriving back at Antioch?

Acts Bible Study Discussion Questions

Chapter 15

Acts 15:1-4

1. "Some men" who came down to Antioch from Judea. Who were they? (See v.5 and v.24.) What were they demanding?
2. Why did Paul and Barnabas disagree with them?
3. What did the Antioch church do about the debate?
4. What did Paul and Barnabas do on their way to Jerusalem?
5. How were they received in Jerusalem? What did they do first?

Acts 15:5-11

6. Who met to consider the question of requiring the Gentile believers to be circumcised? (This is known in church history as "The Council of Jerusalem." It took place in 51 AD.)
7. What was Peter's position? Why?
8. What "yoke" is Peter referring to in v. 10?
9. How do you like the summary of Luther's theology in v. 11?

Acts 15:12-21

10. What did Paul and Barnabas add to the debate?
11. What was James's contribution to confirm the position of Peter, Paul and Barnabas?
12. What did James suggest? What were the four prohibitions? Doesn't this amount to a subset of Jewish law? Why impose it?

Acts 15:22-34

13. Why did the apostles and elders and "the whole church" send men with their letter to Antioch? (v. 27)
14. What is significant about the salutation of the letter?
15. How was the letter received?
16. What did Judas (Barsabbas) and Silas do? (Note v. 34.)

Acts 15:35-41

17. What did Paul and Barnabas do during the next period of time in Antioch? What ended this period?
18. Why did Paul not want to take John (Mark) on a second journey?
19. So what did they do? (Notice again the salutation of that letter from Jerusalem.)