

Acts 13:1-9 – So You Want to Be a Missionary?

“The journey of the gospel from Jerusalem to the ends of the Earth is unstoppable, but uncomfortable.”

–NT Wright

Paul & Barnabas were first sent out of Antioch – 3rd largest city in the Roman Empire



- 1. We must be Positioned & Postured for Sending**
- 2. Positioned** – Many leaders, developing leaders, healthy, focused.
- 3. Postured** – Worship, Prayer, Fasting, not holding too tightly, willing to send.

“More and more I believe that this book [Acts] is in the New Testament to prevent the Church from coasting to a standstill and entering a maintenance mode, with all the inner wheels working but going nowhere.” – John Piper

- **Parable of the Talents – Luke 19:11-27**
- **2 Timothy 1:7-8**

2. Expect Dramatic Responses

- Opposition – Wizards?!
- **1 Thessalonians 2:18** – “For we wanted to come to you ... but Satan blocked our way.”
- Expansion of the Kingdom – The Proconsul Believed!

“Where no one gets healed no one gets stoned.” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

How do we prepare?

- **Worship** – Submission expressed in love.
- **Pray** – Seek to hear from & be connected to God
- **Fast** – Starving the body to feed the soul. Disconnecting from the World to focus on God.
- **Know the Gospel Message – Titus 2:11-14**

“For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.”