

# Ministry is Messy Notes

Acts 14:1-28

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**Main Point:** Live on mission even when ministry is messy.

## Six Ministry Principles

1. Proclaim the gospel \_\_\_\_\_ in every place possible (Acts 14:1-3).
  - There were others who refused to believe who stirred up the Gentiles and \_\_\_\_\_ their minds against the brothers.
  - The word “brother” literally means, “from the same \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - Paul and Barnabas remained even when ministry was getting \_\_\_\_\_.
  - They stayed to \_\_\_\_\_ up the believers by speaking boldly and witnessing to the Word.
  - The word “bold” means they “spoke frankly with \_\_\_\_\_.”
2. Endure opposition, polarization, and \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 14:4-7).
  - Whenever there is gospel proclamation, polarization and persecution are sure to follow (1 Corinthians 16:9).
  - The word “divided” refers to “violent \_\_\_\_\_.”
  - Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ persecution in Luke 12:51 (2 Timothy 3:12).
  - When Paul and Barnabas learned their enemies were united in a plot to stone them to death, they \_\_\_\_\_ to Lystra and Derbe.
  - They were being \_\_\_\_\_ to the command of Christ as given in Matthew 10:23.
  - Sometimes God calls us to stay and other times we’re to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Believe God to do the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 14:8-10).
  - Since there is no record of a synagogue in Lystra, Paul and Barnabas headed to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - They saw a crippled man who had never \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Paul could see this man had \_\_\_\_\_ to be made well.
  - He sprang up and began \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Adjust your methods according to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - When Paul and Barnabas spoke in synagogues, they quoted the Old Testament Scriptures, but when witnessing to superstitious pagans, they took another approach.
  - Paul always finished by pointing people to faith in \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 14:11-18).
  - These superstitious people believed Barnabas was the Greek god Zeus and Paul was Hermes.
  - The priest of Zeus brought out oxen to be \_\_\_\_\_ to them.
  - Paul and Barnabas tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd.
  - They established their \_\_\_\_\_ and challenged the people to turn from empty idol worship to the living God.
5. Evangelism, discipleship, and connection to a church all work \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 14:19-23).
  - The believers were called “\_\_\_\_\_” and they “gathered” together.
  - We are designed to be in \_\_\_\_\_ with other Christians.
  - After Paul is revived and refreshed, he traveled about 60 miles by foot to Derbe.

- They “preached the gospel” and “made many disciples.”
  - “Many” means “adequate, \_\_\_\_\_, enough.”
  - Paul and Barnabas were not going to move to the next place until there were sufficient disciples in place to make more disciples!
  - A disciple is a believer who lovingly follows Jesus and \_\_\_\_\_ helps others follow Him.
  - They returned to the previous cities they had preached in to ensure these new believers were \_\_\_\_\_ up in their faith.
  - Paul and Barnabas provide a model for us in six ways.
    - They evangelized the \_\_\_\_\_ (14:21)
    - They established and strengthened \_\_\_\_\_ (14:22).
    - They encouraged the brothers and sisters to be \_\_\_\_\_ (14:22)
      - Encourage means “to come to the side of someone to bring \_\_\_\_\_.”
      - Continue is to “\_\_\_\_\_, stay, persevere.”
    - They equipped the disciples for impending \_\_\_\_\_ (14:22)
      - The word for “tribulation” means to “crush, \_\_\_\_\_, squeeze.”
    - They enfolded Christ-followers into \_\_\_\_\_ churches (14:23).
    - They entrusted the believers to the \_\_\_\_\_ (14:23).
  - When God’s Word is preached, division and persecution follow, and yet, people are saved, disciples are \_\_\_\_\_, and churches are launched.
  - Our job is to simply \_\_\_\_\_ the seed.
  - Jesus promised to build His \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 16:18).
6. Deepen your partnership with \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 14:24-28).
- Paul and Barnabas arrived \_\_\_\_\_ in Antioch about a year after being sent out (Acts 14:27).
  - Five benefits of hearing from our Go Team partners
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ our missionaries to know we are partnering with them.
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ our vision of what God is doing in the world and how we might join Him.
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ us to live on mission with our neighbors and to make disciples who make disciples.
    - It provides an example and \_\_\_\_\_ for others God may be calling into cross-cultural ministry.
    - It \_\_\_\_\_ us to be faithful when ministry is messy (vs. 28).
      - The word “remain” means “to rub continually by \_\_\_\_\_ with.”

### Action Steps

1. Ask God to give you boldness to share Christ with one person this week.
2. When faced with challenges to your faith, ask God to help you remain faithful without lashing out.
3. Think of one person you know who is far from Christ and begin praying for their salvation every day.
4. In what specific way can you build a gospel bridge to someone in your family, with a neighbor, co-worker, or classmate?
5. Is there someone you know who needs to be discipled or plugged into church? Make a point to reach out this week.
6. If you’re not financially supporting at least one missionary or mission organization, I encourage you to do so.