

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)
 - The 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.”
 - The 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.