

The Week in the Word

Acts Worksheet #24: The First Missionary Journey Begins

Passage: Acts 13:4-12

Sermon Date: Sept. 7

Study Period: Sept 1-6

Link Group Meetings: Sept.8-12

The first major outreach from **Jerusalem** encountered opposition from a sorcerer, Simon Magus (Acts 8:9-24). Now, as the first major mission effort from **Antioch** begins, the missionaries again run into a sorcerer, Bar-Jesus. Satan has always been hard at work, trying to keep people from hearing the Gospel. He knows its power, and does everything he can to try to contain it.

1. If you knew that God wanted you to be a missionary, how would you go about choosing where to go?

2. Read Acts 13:4-12. Where do they go first on this missionary journey? For what reasons would they start there? (also see Acts 4:36 and 11:20-22)

3. Who accompanies Barnabas and Saul? How do they know him? What is his role on the team? (See 12:12,25; 13:5; Colossians 4:10)

4. Whom did Barnabas and Saul meet at Paphos? (13:6-7)

5. Why did the proconsul send for Barnabas and Saul? (13:7)

6. What did Bar-Jesus (Elymas) do, and why? (13:7-8)

7. Bar-Jesus means “Son of Savior.” What does “Elymas” mean (13:8)? Whose child did Saul call him (13:10)? How might this be a play on words?

8. List the accusations made by Saul against Bar-Jesus (Elymas). (13:9-10)

9. What was the judgment pronounced on the sorcerer? Does it seem appropriate (13:11)? Why or why not?

10. When Sergius Paulus saw the miracle, what did he do, and why? (13:12)

11. For whose benefit was this man blinded? Explain your answer. (13:11-12)

12. When missionaries visit your church, how can you benefit from their teaching and experience?

13. Given your background, training, gifts and interests, to what group of people are you best suited to share the news about Christ?