

Acts of the Holy Spirit
“God of the Impossible” – Series

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled todays message: **“Let The Mission Begin”**
➤ (Acts 13:1-13) NKJV.

~INTRO~

NOW...

- As we continue our study in (Acts)...
➤ We arrive at (chapter #13)...
 - Where the ministry of the church...
 - Takes on a new shape.
- Men are *selected / empowered* by the Spirit / & *sent out*.

JUST AS WE LEARNED IN THE OPENING CHAPTER (Acts 1:8) NLT

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere – in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

The Gospel is spreading...

LET'S UNDERSTAND THE SCENE:

FLIP BACK TO (Acts 11:25-27)

- Location = Antioch of Syria...
➤ NOT Antioch of Pisidia (Turkey)



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HERE'S A FEW THINGS WE CAN LEARN:

IDEA #1 – THE MINISTRY TEAM:

READ (vv.1-5)

- Five men...
 - 1) Barnabas – Jewish
 - 2) Simeon – From Africa
 - 3) Lucius – Northern Africa
 - 4) Manaen – Boyhood friend of Herod Antipas
 - 5) Saul / Paul – Pharisee

HERE'S WHAT WE RECOGNIZE...

- The church is made of many parts... with differing gifts.
 - Jew / Gentile / men / women / free / slaves
 - (Gal. 3:23-29) NLT
 - (Rom. 12:6-12) NLT

NOW...

- These men were ministering to NKJV (OR) worshiping the Lord NLT
 - AND all of a sudden... God gave a word of prophecy...
 - Which directed the ministry beyond Antioch.
- Under Peter & persecution the Gospel spread north out of Jerusalem.
 - Now God was going to use Paul to take it to the western world.



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KEY = Being filled with the Spirit.

SOME THINGS WE CAN CONSIDER...

- Just in a practical way about leading.
 - Leaders are to take ground:
 1. Receive the vision from God
 2. Share the vision from God
 3. Equip the people of God
 4. Move forward with steps of faith in God

NOW...

- These might be practical matters...
 - But we see the church in Antioch...
 - Waiting on the Lord & being sent in a specific direction.

SO... OUR AIM...

- Is to be people who are Spirit led.
 - Not driven by good ideas OR cool programs.
 - [\(Gal. 3:3\) NLT](#)

IDEA #2 – THE OPPOSITION:

READ (vv.6-11)

AS THE GOSPEL ADVANCES...

- We see **opposition** spring up again!
 - A demonic push back to God's plan.

CHURCH... THIS IS A LESSON FOR US TOO.

- We can be right in the middle of God's leading...
 - And bang!!! We begin to experience trouble...
 - That's beyond our ability to overcome.

TAKE NOTE...

- God allows trouble to happen...
 - So that our **mission & ministry** stays personally...
 - Connected to Him.

THE BIBLE SAYS...

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- (Ps. 147:10-11) NLT

Zech. 4:6 NLT

“... *It is not by force nor by strength, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.*”

HERE'S THE APPLICATION:

GOD IS WORKING IN YOU;

- You're making progress;
 - AND then out of the blue...
 - You get tagged with marriage problems...
 - Kids / jobs / finances / health / car / parents / etc.

LISTEN...

- Opposition is to be expected when God is on the move.
 - And our learning in church...
 - Prepares us for the battles ahead.

(1 Peter 4:12) NLT.

IDEA #3 – THE RESULT:

READ (v.12)

- We see that **one man** was reached with the gospel message...
 - And it was the miracle that **caught his attention** for belief.

(John 14:11) NIV

“Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.”

THE EVIDENCE...

- God has given to all creation is enough to exercise faith.

(Rom. 10:17) NET

“... faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the preached word of Christ.”

~ IN CLOSING ~

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IF TODAY IS A DAY...

- Where you can identify with making progress with God...
 - Only to get hit with problems.

CAN I ENCOURAGE YOU...

- To remember this study for perspective.
- God is working things out...
 - He wants you to endure... (don't give up)!
 - And look to Him for help.