

Paul Goes to the Gentiles

Observation Questions: What happened? Have kids refer to Acts 13:44-14:28 in their Bibles.

Why did the Jews throw Paul and Barnabas out of their territory? (*Acts 13:45, 48. They were jealous of the large crowds that came to hear God's word preached. They contradicted whatever Paul said. Because of this, Paul and Barnabas said they would now go to people of other nations with God's word.*)

How did Paul and Barnabas respond? (*Acts 13:51. They shook the dust off their feet and went to the next city.*) What did this mean? (*They would not let these people bother them. We might say, "Just let it go."*)

What happened while Paul and Barnabas were in the city of Iconium? (*Acts 14:1-5. They preached to a large crowd of Jews and Greeks. Some people believed and others refused. Some of them even planned to stone Paul and Barnabas to death.*)

Did Paul and Barnabas go to other cities to share the news of Jesus? (yes)

Which people mostly believed? (*The non-Jewish people.*)

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

The key verse from Romans 10:12-13 says, "There is no difference between Jews and Greeks. They all have the same Lord, who gives his riches to everyone who prays to him. So then, 'Whoever prays in the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

Who then will be saved? (*All who pray in the name of the Lord, regardless of race or status.*)

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

What lessons can we learn from Paul and Barnabas' visits to other cities? (*Some people will always reject the news of Jesus and will often try to keep others from accepting it. We need to continue to share the love of Jesus even if others don't accept it. Some will.*)

Should we let that discourage us? Why not?

Should we close the door of friendship to others even if they close it to us? Why or why not?

Application Activity: Supplies: Appendices that have been copied back to back—one page for each child, pencils, markers or crayons

Pass out the Friendship Door craft and a pencil to each child.

Open your Friendship Door and please write down some of the people that need your friendship.

What can you do to open the door of friendship to them? Gordy decided to wear something purple. (*Ask them to come over and play, or go to the park to shoot hoops, sit by them at lunch, talk to them.*)

What can you do or say to share Jesus with others? (*Bring them to church, or Sunday School, tell them how Jesus has opened the door of friendship to them, too.*)

Have kids decorate their doors by coloring them. Review the take home point:

Today we learned that *God wants to reach people of all nations—we can help.

Closing Prayer: Thank God that he opened the door of friendship to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Pray that all might keep the door of friendship open to others even if rejected. Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to stay encouraged when rejected. Have kids pray for specific individuals God would want them to be friends with.