

HEART Questions

These next series of questions are intended to help us get to the meaning or interpretation of the passage. Scripture speaks to each person a little differently. Any number of thoughts and/or comments that come to your mind would be good to share. Every contribution is meaningful and helpful to our purpose tonight.

1. Why did Paul stay a “long time” in Iconium relative to other places he went to?

There were Jews poisoning the minds of the Jewish and Gentile converts .

2. Why did God perform “miraculous signs and wonders” through Paul and Barnabus?

Because they were “speaking boldly in the Lord, [and]... bearing witness to the word of His grace.”

3. Why did Paul and Barnabus finally leave Iconium?

Only “when a violent attempt was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse and stone them” did they feel compelled to leave.

Discuss the pros and cons of leaving or staying?

Pro: a) it helped prevent the spread of violence to others. b)it preserved their lives enabling them to have mor opportunity to witness and do spiritual ministry.

Con: a) Could demonstrate cowardice. b) Could have been accused of quenching the Spirit’s purpose to bring conviction<?>

4. Describe the faith of the crippled man in Lystra.

Something about how he listened and manifested strong faith in his spirit made Paul reach out toward him.

In what was he trusting - Paul or God?

Since he tried to worship a man, he understood NOT and was definitely NOT trusting God.

5. Why did Luke refer to the fact that the natives spoke in the local Lycaonian language?

They would not be able to understand Paul if he spoke NOT in their dialect, OR the Spirit would have to be miraculously helping Paul to speak in a language he knew NOT.

6. What does the healing of the crippled man show about the spiritual danger that can happen with healing?
7. Why do you think Luke does not mention Paul going to a synagogue in Lystra?
8. V.15-18 may represent the first record of a message given to people who were perhaps entirely Gentile. What was the difference in this presentation from previous messages given to mostly Jewish audiences?
9. What is the difference between evangelism and discipleship? How is this demonstrated in v.21-23?
10. What were the key elements of Paul and Barnabas’ testimony to their sending church at Antioch?

HAND Questions

These last series of questions are intended for us to apply the insights we have gained from the previous questions to our own personal lives.

1. How does God perform signs and wonders today?
2. How are they different from the 1st century signs and wonders? How do we explain this?
3. How do we know to persist or back off in our efforts to “make disciples?” How can the experiences of Paul and Barnabas help us with this?
4. How did Satan work to dismantle the work of Paul & Barnabas in Lystra?
5. How does Satan work similarly today?
6. How can we apply Paul’s approach in preaching to the people of Lystra to witnessing to people today?