

Notice in Acts 13:51-53 that the Jews who rejected Paul’s message “stirred up the influential religious women and the leaders of the city, and they incited a mob against Paul and Barnabas and ran them out of town.” Just like Jesus had told his disciples when He sent them out in pairs, Paul and Barnabas “shook the dust from their feet as a sign of the rejection” and moved on (see Matthew 10:14). We cannot control how people respond to the Gospel. We cannot control how people respond to GENERATIONZ. But we can choose to do the right thing and faithfully be about what Christ has called us to—to go and make disciples—baptizing, teaching, and preparing this next generation.

4. How have you seen the Lord already at work through GENERATIONZ?

This rising generation has the potential to impact the world like no other generation before! In what ways are you becoming more aware of the great need for Christ in this present world?

How is your growing awareness of people’s need for Christ motivating deeper levels of faithfulness in you?

*“I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*  
-- the last words of Jesus on the earth (Matthew 28:18-20)

### One Year Bible Reading

Mar. 29: Deuteronomy 11:1-12:32, Luke 8:22-39, Psalm 70:1-5, Proverbs 12:4  
Mar. 30: Deuteronomy 13:1-15:23, Luke 8:40-9:6, Psalm 71:1-24, Proverbs 12:5-7  
Mar. 31: Deuteronomy 16:1-17:20, Luke 9:7-27, Psalm 72:1-20, Proverbs 12:8-9  
Apr. 1: Deuteronomy 18:1-20:20, Luke 9:28-50, Psalm 73:1-28, Proverbs 12:10  
Apr. 2: Deuteronomy 21:1-22:30, Luke 9:51-10:12, Psalm 74:1-23, Proverbs 12:11  
Apr. 3: Deuteronomy 23:1-25:19, Luke 10:13-37, Psalm 75:1-10, Prov. 12:12-14  
Apr. 4: Deuteronomy 26:1-27:26, Luke 10:38-11:13, Psalm 76:1-12, Prov. 12:15-17



## Week 3

**Text: Acts 13:32-42**

### The Plain Truth

**We are at our \_\_\_\_\_ when we are  
\_\_\_\_\_ for God.**

- 1) David was \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ His spiritual leaders.**
- 2) David was \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ in his people and emerging leaders.**
- 3) David was \_\_\_\_\_ in his \_\_\_\_\_ giving.**

**March 28 & 29, 2015**

# Generationz - Week 3

Life Group Lesson



Week of March 29

The Bible is filled with real stories of real people—everyday, ordinary men and women who somehow tackle extraordinary assignments once God gets ahold of them. Sometimes the faithful people we read about in God’s Word seem distant—we think we could never do what *they* did for God. After all we’re living in different times, right? But “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). Our God never changes. Like our heroes of faith, God strengthens us mightily when we trust Him and respond to His call in faith. And like the folks we read about in the Bible, we are at our best when we are being bold for God.

Saul of Tarsus was a persecutor of the early church. Before he was saved, he boldly did everything in his power to stop men and women from professing faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. But one day, thinking he was on mission for God, Saul met the risen Christ. This encounter led Saul to the Truth and he began following Christ, instead of opposing Him. Saul became a changed man. Immediately, Saul began to witness and preach, but he frightened some who doubted he had truly changed. Then a man named Barnabas “brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus and how the Lord had spoken to Saul” (Acts 9:27). In time, Saul (Paul) and Barnabas became missionaries together.

## Read Acts 13:32-42

People were first called Christians in Antioch and for good reason—it is a Holy Spirit filled church! Paul and Barnabas are commissioned by this church to a “special work” (see Acts 13:1-4a) and soon set sail, eventually making their way to Antioch of Pisidia, a city in the western region of the province of Galatia. When they arrive, Paul and Barnabas go to the synagogue for worship on the Sabbath, and are invited to give a “word of encouragement for the people.” Paul stands and boldly gives his first message and tells how Jesus, the promised Son of David, is the ultimate fulfillment of all of God’s promises.

1. “And it is one of King David’s descendants, Jesus, who is God’s promised Savior of Israel!” (Acts 13:23). According to the following Scriptures, how does Jesus Christ fulfill God’s promise to David—to give him a lasting dynasty—taking special note of the uniqueness of Christ, how Jesus alone establishes God’s eternal covenant.

2 Samuel 7:8-16

Psalms 16:7-11 and Psalm 110: 1-4

Matthew 22:41-46

Mark 10:46-52

Matthew 21:1-11

Acts 2:25-33

Revelation 22:16

As a result of Paul’s words, “many Jews and devout converts to Judaism” believed. However, within one week of “revival” severe negativity and jealousy began to poison Paul and Barnabas’ evangelistic progress in Antioch of Pisidia. Yet the Holy Spirit was already at work in the hearts of those who had accepted Christ and a new church was born in that unreached region of the world (see Acts 13:44-52). Paul and Barnabas had been bold for their Lord, and God honored the seeds that had been planted. This would be the first of many churches spread throughout the province of Galatia (see Galatians 1:1-2). Our God is unstoppable!

2. Take a few moments and discuss why we must not let jealousy, negativity, and outside obstacles hinder our mission to share the Gospel. (Obstacles are inevitable, so also discuss ways we can prevail through the Holy Spirit.)

Share a time when you witnessed the Lord bringing forth fruit (a harvest of souls) in the face of negativity and obstacles to your efforts. What did you learn through that experience?

God once told His prophet Ezekiel, “You must give them my messages whether they listen or not” (Ezekiel 2:7a). There are times (as with Ezekiel, Jeremiah, and many prophets of old) that no one listens. Share a time when you personally saw hardness of heart and unbelief kept someone from believing in Christ. What do you remember about that experience?

We are at our best when we are being bold for God. But our boldness for God will not always bring out the best in others. It will draw some, and repel others. Some people will love you. Some will hate you. In fact, Paul says, “Our lives are a Christ-like fragrance rising up to God. But this fragrance is perceived differently by those who are being saved and by those who are perishing. To those who are perishing, we are a dreadful smell of death and doom. But to those who are being saved, we are a life-giving perfume” (2 Corinthians 2:15-16b).

3. Of all people, the Lord Jesus knows what it is like to be favorably received by some, and forever rejected by others. Below are 4 encounters we read about in the New Testament. Beside each reference, jot down how Jesus reacts in each instance and what you learn about the human (heart) condition.

Jesus was rejected by the people of Nazareth— Luke 4:16-30

Jesus was asked to leave by the Gerasenes when He healed the man of demonic possession – Mark 4:15-17

Jesus was received by tax collectors and sinners – Luke 15:1

Jesus was received by the people of Sychar (a Samaritan village) and asked to stay – John 4:39-42