

The Holy Spirit in Acts

Session 11: Healing the Division

Acts 14:1-28

Instructor: Dirk Rodgers

For Handouts, Discussion Guide and more, visit blog.dirkscorner.com.
Videos will also be posted on our [Bethany Church YouTube Channel](#).

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture passages are taken from the New International Version (2011), Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Session Outline

- 1. Division in Iconium
- 2. Intense Division in Lystra
- 3. A Strategic Return to Antioch

2

1. Division in Iconium

- Reasons for Division
- Results of Division

3



Ruins from
Iconium:
Jewish
Synagogue?

Source:
priscillaramaji.
tripod.com

1. Division in Iconium

Reasons for Division

“So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his **GRACE** by enabling them to perform signs and wonders.”

Acts 14:3

God's Spirit confirming His message of grace through signs

8

2. Intense Division in Lystra

“The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.”

An Intense Reaction

Acts 14:13

Misguided but passionate worship of mortal men

2. Intense Division in Lystra

“But when the apostles
Barnabas and Paul heard
of this, they tore their
clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting:
‘Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only
human, like you.’”

An Intense
Reaction

Acts 14:14-15a

*A humble sharing of mortality;
Compare Peter’s response to Cornelius. Acts 10:26*

2. Intense Division in Lystra

“But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and **went back into the city**. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.”

An Intense
Opposition

Acts 14:20

Shows no fear! Focus on mission!

3. Strategic Return to Antioch

“Paul and Barnabas
appointed elders for them **Establishing**
in each church and, with prayer and fasting,
committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put
their trust.”

Acts 14:23

*A Jewish organizational model imported into a Gentile
world*

3. Strategic Return to Antioch

“On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.”

Reporting

Acts 14:27

Celebrating God's work together

Conclusion	
Previous Weeks:	Through His Spirit empowering His faithful witnesses, God extends His spiritual kingdom to all nations.
This Week:	When faced with cultural division, stay on mission; expect hardship and opposition; encourage the faithful; trust the Spirit's power.
