

## Life Group Discussion Questions Acts 13:26-52

Read each of the following verses. How do they all point to Jesus? Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 53:3, Isaiah 11:10, Jeremiah 23:5, Psalm 118:22, Matthew 21:42, Micah 5:2

What stands out to you in this section—words, phrases, or actions that catch your attention?

### **Read Acts 13:26-39**

How does Paul describe what the people and rulers in Jerusalem did to Jesus? List the key verbs.

In verses 26–39, what are the main points of Paul’s gospel message (about Jesus, about sin, about forgiveness, about justification)?

Verse 38–39 says that through *“Brothers, listen! We are here to proclaim that through this man Jesus there is forgiveness for your sins. <sup>39</sup> Everyone who believes in him is made right in God’s sight—something the law of Moses could never do.* How would you put that in your own words? Why was this so shocking in a synagogue setting?

What is the danger of believing that obeying the law can save us?

### **Read Acts 13:40-52**

What are the different responses to Paul’s message in verses 42–52 (Jews, Gentiles)?

Why do you think some of the Jews argued against what Paul was teaching?

In verses 40–41 Paul gives a warning from the prophets to those who “mock” or “scoff.” What is he warning them about, and why do you think he ends his sermon this way?

In verses 46–48 we see both human responsibility (you rejected it) and God’s sovereignty (*and all who were chosen for eternal life became believers.*). How do both truths appear in the text?

Read Ephesians 1:4-5. Ephesians 1:11. What does it mean that God “chose” us?

Read Romans 8:29 What does it mean that God foreknew or knew His people in advance?

How do we wrestle with God’s part in saving us and our part in our salvation?

What questions does this raise, and what comforts does it give?

The Jews who opposed Paul were “filled with jealousy” when they saw the crowds and began to contradict and revile him.

What do you think they were afraid of losing? How can jealousy or fear still keep people from Christ today?

How do the Gentiles respond when they hear that the message is also for them (verses 47–48)? What does their joy reveal about what they had been missing?

In verses 50–52, persecution forces Paul and Barnabas to leave, yet “the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.”

Are there any ways you are tempted to reject God’s word (verse 46) in areas of life where it confronts or challenges you? What would repentance look like there this week?