



# THE BOOK OF ACTS

From the Outpouring to Paul to Us

## SESSION 3

1. Watch this week's sermon in-person or online.
2. Gather your group or family and open your Bibles to the next verse.
3. Apply your life to the Bible together with these honest questions.
4. Cover the verses after these through Devotions 114-120 ([podcast](#)/[video](#)) and share them with the one you're discipling.

# GROUP/FAMILY SESSION 3

## ACTS 14:8-20

This week's sermon is in Acts 13:13-52

Devotions 114-120 (podcast/video) cover Acts 14:21-15:35

At [www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com](http://www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com)

### CONTEXT:

The city of Lystra had a legend. It was fabled that gods Zeus and Hermes came to Lystra disguised as mortals seeking food and shelter. They were turned away by all the residents of Lystra except for the kindly couple Philemon and Baucis. The myth's fear-based moral application comes with the ending: Zeus and Hermes massacred the residents of the town and turned the home of Philemon and Baucis into a temple to themselves. Today's text took place in the city of Lystra and, as you will see, the legend of Zeus and Hermes' visit remained ingrained in the people's culture.

### THE BIG IDEA OF THE TEXT:

After God worked a miracle through Paul, the townspeople of Lystra misattributed the power to the false gods Zeus and Hermes, believing Paul and Barnabas to be their personifications. Paul gave an exquisite, inspired discourse on general revelation in response, but things quickly turned hostile when Jews from Antioch and Iconium won over the crowd.



## BIBLICAL TEXT (CSB)

**Acts 14:8** In Lystra a man was sitting who was without strength in his feet, had never walked, and had been lame from birth. 9 He listened as Paul spoke. After looking directly at him and seeing that he had faith to be healed, 10 Paul said in a loud voice, “Stand up on your feet!” And he jumped up and began to walk around.

11 When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted, saying in the Lycaonian language, “The gods have come down to us in human form!” 12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the town, brought bulls and wreaths to the gates because he intended, with the crowds, to offer sacrifice.

14 The apostles Barnabas and Paul tore their robes when they heard this and rushed into the crowd, shouting, 15 “People! Why are you doing these things? We are people also, just like you, and we are proclaiming good news to you, that you turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and everything in them. 16 In past generations he allowed all the nations to go their own way, 17 although he did not leave himself without a witness, since he did what is good by giving you rain from heaven and fruitful seasons and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.” 18 Even though they said these things, they barely stopped the crowds from sacrificing to them.

19 Some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and when they won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, thinking he was dead. 20 After the disciples gathered around him, he got up and went into the town. The next day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.

## APPLYING OUR LIVES TO THE TEXT TOGETHER:

- Why was the man's faith relevant to his own healing in verses 8-10? Is this biblical proof of modern day faith healings?
- Describe the risk and faith of Paul in using such potentially socially disastrous words to this man in verse 10.
- Review the "Context" section above for more on why the crowd thought our boys were Zeus and Hermes (vv.11-13), then list modern examples of people deifying speakers.
- If God brings revival to our city, can we take any credit? How will you respond if credit for a move of God comes your way? Give some example responses borrowing from Paul.
- Scripture is "specific revelation:" God revealing himself specifically. Practice sharing from **general** revelation the way Paul did in verses 15-17.
- Paul was nearly executed. Look back at verse 20 and identify who saved him. What should the people of the church do for one another?





# THE TAKEAWAY

SO WHAT, CHURCH?

WE GIVE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE GLORY TO GOD WHO  
CREATED JOY ITSELF FOR THE GREAT THINGS HE  
ACCOMPLISHES THROUGH US – EVEN WHEN THEY ARE  
MIRACULOUS, EVEN WHEN THEY BRING REVIVAL, AND EVEN  
WHEN THEY PUT US IN DANGER.

TO COVER THE SUBSEQUENT SCRIPTURE IN DAILY DEVOTIONS 114–120:  
SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES YOUTUBE AND PODCAST

# FOR PARENTS:

How to Show Your Kids Jesus in This Passage:

All Scripture points to Jesus. Here is how you can take what God showed you in this text and disciple your child with it! You don't need a seminary degree and you don't need to be perfect. Just point to Jesus. He is perfect.



We did not write the Bible, so we cannot take credit for the great things the Holy Spirit does when we share it with people and their lives are miraculously changed. Practice saying, "Praise God!" when someone praises you for something God did through you. Tell them that One who gets the glory is the One who made everything – even joy itself!

TO COVER THE SUBSEQUENT SCRIPTURE IN DAILY DEVOTIONS 114–120:

SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES YOUTUBE AND PODCAST