

## Power to Witness in Word and Deed – Part 2

*The Book of Acts*

**Acts 13:32-52**

### Read Acts 13:32-52.

1. The rulers of the synagogue in Pisidian Antioch invited Paul and Barnabas to give the congregation a “message of encouragement” (v. 15). What is the heart of Paul’s message? (vv. 32-33a)
  
2. Many Jews longed to see God fulfill his promises made to the Old Testament fathers.<sup>1</sup>
  - a. What did God specifically promise King David? (2 Sam. 7:12, 15-16)
  
  - b. How has God fulfilled his promise? (vv. 33-37; 2:25-36)
  
  - c. What blessings does this greater king bring?  
v. 38  
  
v. 39  
  
v. 47.  
  
v. 48  
  
📖 \* Is. 53:11; 1 Pet. 1:3-5
  
3. Paul says, “through [Jesus] everyone who believes is justified” (v. 39). What do you think it means to be justified? (vv. 38-39) Feel free to use a dictionary to help you understand this word better.
  
4. Why should forgiveness and justification be good news for Paul’s Jewish listeners? (Gal. 3:10; Jas. 2:10)

Why should forgiveness and justification be good news for everyone? (Titus 3:3-7)

What are some practical ways this forgiveness and justification affect your daily life?

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<sup>1</sup>📖 \* Luke 2:25-32, 36-38; 7:20; 24:19-21

\*The 📖 symbol indicates verses for further study.

5. What somber warning does Paul give to his listeners? (vv. 40-41)
6. What evidence do you see of the Spirit's work as a result of Paul's preaching? (vv. 42-44)
7. In spite of the warning (v. 40), some of the Jews respond to the popularity of Paul's message with jealousy. What are the results of their jealousy? (vv. 45, 46b, 50)
8. Paul feels deep anguish over the Jewish people's rejection of Jesus (Rom. 9:2-4). Yet what is clear to him about God's calling for his ministry? (vv. 46-47; Acts 9:15; Gal. 1:15-16, 2:7-9)
9. How do the Gentiles respond? (vv. 48-49)
10. How do Paul and Barnabas respond to the persecution they experience in Pisidian Antioch? (vv. 51-52; Lk. 9:1-5)
11. The truth of the gospel is not determined by the response of those who hear it, nor does the burden of saving people rest on the messengers of the good news. How does this encourage you to share the good news of Jesus confidently with others?
12. Throughout Acts we never see the good news preached the same way twice. Though the substance is the same, the Spirit is actively at work in the messenger and customizes the message for specific audiences. How has God caught your attention with some aspect of the good news recently? (Maybe it was an illustration or word picture, a verse of Scripture, a teaching or a testimony that brought it to life afresh.)