Murray Baptist Church – 7/14/20 – Bible Study Outline

Acts Chapter 13

**Key people**

* Prophets / teachers: Barnabas, Simeon/Niger, Lucius, Manaen, Saul, John (Mark)

**Key themes**

* Persecution results in the birth of the church in Antioch, focus was placed on Gentiles as well (Acts 11:19-27)
* The presence of the Holy Spirit
* Laying hands on / setting apart / commissioning for a purpose or a task

Acts 13:1-3

How were Barnabas and Saul so well regarded among the prophets in teachers in Antioch?

* In the midst of worship the Holy Spirit identified Barnabas and Saul as those called by God.
* Fasting seems to be a consistent part of hearing from God (v2-3)

Acts 13:4-5

* In God’s will, there is always room for others, this is not a solo activity (John was added to the party)
* Proclaimed the word of God in Jewish synagogues (common activity for Saul/Paul)
* Do not discount what God will do with someone (even if you have good reason to doubt a person’s character, God may not be done with the yet)

Acts 13:6-12

* Different places will bring you into contact with different characters, people, ideas and approaches
* The goal of God’s self-revelation through the Bible is transformation. We haven’t been called to see transformation, but to be transformation. Notice Saul’s name changes to Paul in the midst of verse 9. It wasn’t a big deal but it does denote change, transformation.
* Bar-Jesus / Elymas (sorcerer) – had a spirit of opposition
* There will those who oppose you because of who you represent rather than specifically opposing you.
* Paul confronts the sorcerer
* God often allows confrontations in the Bible so that others can see the power of the Lord

Acts 13:13-15

* Barnabas and Paul attend the synagogue on the Sabbath
* Paul invited to speak

Acts 13:16-41

* Paul relates to the people through their history and how the Scriptures were fulfilled through Christ’s actions
* Paul warns them to listen

Acts 13:42-50

* Paul has now become the unofficial leader of the gentile movement. (v42 – changes in order of names can be significant in the Bible)
* Developing relationships outside of church help strengthen the in-church relationships
* Listeners invited Paul and Barnabas to share more with them on the next Sabbath and a larger group showed up