

# The Unstoppable Influence of Encouragement

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the  
sanctuary  
oakville  
Real people. Real impact.

Acts Series: *"Completely Irreligious, Yet Radically Christian"* Part 22

**Acts 13:13-52**

## FOUR CHARACTERISTICS OF SPIRITUAL ENCOURAGERS:

**...Proactively \_\_\_\_\_ for people to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia..."* Acts 13:13a

### **1.2.1.R.I.S.E.**

**1** – choose 1 missional 'third place'

**2** – visit 2 times per week

**1** – prayerfully search for 1 'person of peace'

**R** – relate

**I** – interest (authentic)

**S** – serve a surfaced need

**E** – encourage with Good News

**...Don't allow the \_\_\_\_\_ of others to \_\_\_\_\_ them.**

*"...where John left them to return to Jerusalem."* Acts 13:13b

**...\_\_\_\_\_ what people deeply really \_\_\_\_\_ to know:**

*"From Perga they went on to Pisidian Antioch. On the Sabbath they entered the synagogue and sat down. After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the synagogue rulers sent word to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have a message of encouragement for the people, please speak.""* Acts 13:14-15

### **My Most Encouraging Message:**

a) God is \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (even when it doesn't look like it).

- God was in control during Israel's Egyptian captivity (16-20a).
- **God was in control** to provide Israel with a righteous king, David, from whose lineage the Messiah would come (20b-23).

- **God was in control** when He chose John the Baptist to prepare the way for the Messiah (24-25).
- **God was in control** during the mock trials, illegal crucifixion and the resurrection of the Messiah (26-36).

**Therefore, God is in control of** (my greatest fear):

- a) **God has an \_\_\_\_\_ purpose for our \_\_\_\_\_ lives.**  
*"When David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he died..." Acts 13:36*
- b) **God offers us a \_\_\_\_\_.**  
*"Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses." Acts 13:38-39*

**...Hand over to God the things they \_\_\_\_\_.**

**The Key:** We must let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God do the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

### **3 POSSIBLE REACTIONS TO HEARING GOD'S MESSAGE:**

- a) **Some become \_\_\_\_\_.** (Because they actively resist God's voice.)  
*"On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and talked abusively against what Paul was saying. Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: "We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'" Acts 13:44-47*
- b) **Some become \_\_\_\_\_.** (Because they recognize their need for God's grace.)  
*"When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed." Acts 13:48*
- c) **Some become \_\_\_\_\_.** (They allow God to have access in their whole life.)  
*"The word of the Lord spread through the whole region...And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit." Acts 13:49, 52*