

## **Jealousy or Joy**

**1. The Older Brothers' Jealousy Blinds Them to Christ.**

**2. The Believing Gentiles Rejoice in Christ.**

**3. The Word of the Lord Reveals Eternal Life in Jesus.**

Paul and Barnabas were celebrated at first for bringing the good news of King Jesus to the synagogue in Pisidian Antioch. But the overwhelmingly positive reception by their Gentile neighbors provokes them to jealousy and they turn against the gospel. What they reject, many of the Gentiles receive with joy. The God of Israel has brought salvation to the ends of the earth.

## Galatians 5:1

For freedom Christ has set us free;  
stand firm therefore,  
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

## Romans 10: 1 – 4

“Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a **zeal for God, but not according to knowledge**. For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”

## Acts—Series Overview

### *The Expansion of the Gospel Witness with Power*

*Acts* records God’s faithful accomplishment of all that He promised in taking the gospel to the nations. It lays the groundwork for all that will take place as His Church awaits His return. Just as Jesus lived and spoke as the Father commanded, we now are called to do in the power of His Holy Spirit. While Jesus did this perfectly, we will strive imperfectly, constantly in need of the Holy Spirit’s direction, power, and correction. Nevertheless, our faithful God will work even through our failing efforts and His gospel witness through us will prevail and penetrate every nation, tribe, & territory. For the praise of our King!

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

Have you had an experience when everything within you screams, “NO!” and you cannot see straight? The good news of King Jesus goes against every fiber of our being. It is only through the grace of Christ that we can receive it with joy. But that is exactly what God does. He gives eternal life in place of death. He transforms us from enemies to beloved sons and daughters, all to His glory and praise.

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.*

## **Sunday Morning**

READ **Acts 13:42-52; Luke 15:1-2; 11-32; Romans 10:1-4**. DISCUSS, God uses all things (including our disbelief) to accomplish His purposes. How does God use His people’s ignorance to fulfill His promise? How does His sovereignty give us comfort? How are you submitting to His lordship today? Be specific. PRAY “Risen Lord, thank You for conquering death. Enable us to joyfully submit to Your holy rule and reign over all things! ”

## **Sunday Evening**

**Thanksgiving Service at 6:00 pm.** Please join in-person or on-line!

## **Monday**

READ **Acts 13:42-52; Luke 9:1-6; 10:10-11; Nehemiah 5:9-13**. DISCUSS, How does the shaking off of dust convey the judgment of God? How does the use of this imagery demonstrate the continuity of the covenant between God and His people? PRAY, “Jesus, as Your Kingdom expands according to Your proclamation, teach us to acknowledge You as the Sovereign over all things!”

## **Tuesday**

READ **Acts 13:42-52; Galatians 3:10-14; Romans 10:5-21**. DISCUSS, How has Christ redeemed us? What is the relationship between Israel and the nations? How does that point to Christ as the only King of Kings? PRAY, “Jesus, we Praise You for Your great love for Your people. Teach us to trust and obey You all our days.”

### Wednesday

READ **Acts 13:42-52; Romans 11:1-10; Galatians 4:1-20**. DISCUSS, How does a rebellious human being receive pardon from King Jesus? How does a traitor become a child of God? How is this the same or different for Gentiles/Jews? PRAY, “Lord Jesus, we thank You for conquering death for us.”

### Thursday

READ **Acts 13:42-52; Romans 11:11-36; Galatians 4:21-31**. DISCUSS, What is the difference between being born slave or free? What makes the difference? Which are you? PRAY, “Jesus, You are our elder brother if by faith we respond to You with joy. Enable us to obey You absolutely with great joy.”

### Friday

READ **Acts 13:42-52; Luke 15:1-2; 11-32; Romans 10:1-4**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? REJOICE if by God’s grace you are able to praise the King! PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 14:1-28**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

## Galatians 3: 13 – 14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.