

***The Labors of the Missionaries
in Reporting***

(Acts 14:24-28)

Introduction:

- **Acts 14:1-28 has four sections. They are ...**
- *The Labors of the Missionaries in Iconium*
- *The Labors of the Missionaries in Lycaonia*
- *The Labors of the Missionaries in Revisiting*
- *The Labors of the Missionaries in Reporting*
- Today we take up The Labors of the Missionaries in Reporting.
- This is recounted in Acts 14:24-28.

The Route Taken:

- Verses 24 and 25 specify the course they followed on their way home:
- “They passed through Pisidia and came into Pamphylia. When they had spoken the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.”

The Destination Identified:

- Verse 26 identifies the destination of their journey:
- “From there they sailed to Antioch, from which they had been commended to the grace of God for the work that they had accomplished.”
- This verse not only clarifies the destination, but also the reason for the destination.

The 1st Missionary Journey—The Big Picture Map



PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 13 & 14

- City
 - One of the "Seven Churches" - Rev. 2-3
 - ← Paul's Route →
- ConfirmingToJesus.com



The 1st Missionary Journey—The Close Up Map

The Church Gathered:

- Verse 27a makes clear the context in which they gave their report:
- “When they had arrived and gathered the church together.”
- The church is not an informal club.
- It is an organized society.

The Report Given:

- Verse 27b provides the summary of the report:
- “they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.”
- *... they spoke of what God had done with them.*
- *... they said that God opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.*
- *... this does not mean merely that God gave the Gentiles an opportunity to be saved.*

The Visit Prolonged:

- Verse 28 reveals that they settled down with the church in Antioch:
- “And they spent a long time with the disciples.”
- The language of the original is striking.
- Luke actually says, “they continued a time *not a little* with the disciples.”

Practical, Gospel Lessons:

- ***Lessons about Biblical Missionaries:***
- *Biblical missionaries need a home or a sending church to which they are accountable.*
- *Biblical missionaries must report to their home or sending church.*
- *Biblical missionaries in reporting must emphasize what God has done with them.*
- *Biblical missionaries must spend time resting and renewing fellowship with their sending church.*

Practical, Gospel Lessons:

- *Lessons for Biblical Christians:*
- *All Christians need a church.*
- *All Christians need to maintain communication with their church.*
- *All Christians need to speak of what God is doing with them to their church.*
- *All Christians need to spend time **not a little** fellowshiping with their church.*

Practical, Gospel Lessons:

- *Lessons about the Biblical Christ:*
- *Christ is the source of sovereign grace.*
- *Christ is the one in whom we must believe.*
- *Christ is the center of the community we need.*
- *Christ is the one who calls us to communicate with one another.*