

**Devotion Guidelines:**

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2. Read the Scripture passage together.
3. Discuss how you and your family members will apply the lesson.
4. Pray for each other and ask for God's help to apply what you have learned.

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Read Together: Acts Chapter 14

Acts 14:1-7 *In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a manner that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks. But the Jews who disbelieved stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brethren. Therefore, they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands. The people of the city was divided. And when an attempt was made by both the Gentiles and the Jews with their rulers, to mistreat and to stone them, they fled to Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region; and there they continued to preach the gospel.*

Acts 14:8-19 *At Lystra a man was sitting who had no strength in his feet, lame from his mother's womb ... This man was listening to Paul as he spoke, who, when he had fixed his gaze on him and had seen that he had faith to be made well, said with a loud voice, "Stand upright on your feet." And he leaped up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they raised their voice saying, "The gods have become like men and have come down to us." ... The priest of Zeus brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their robes and rushed out into the crowd, crying out and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We are also men of the same nature as you and preach the gospel to you that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them... But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city.*

Acts 14:20-22 *The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."*

Talk Together:

1. What happened when Paul preached in Iconium? What do you think caused Paul and Barnabas to spend a considerable amount of time speaking boldly there and why? (vv. 1-7)
2. Why did the people of Lystra want to worship Paul and Barnabas? What did Paul tell them? How did Paul ended up being stoned by the people? (vv. 8-19)
3. Did Paul stop sharing about Jesus? What did he do next? (vv. 20-22)
4. Why do you think Paul and Barnabas persevered in sharing the gospel everywhere they went despite the opposition and danger to their life?

Conviction: I will persevere in my mission to share the truth about Jesus.

Application: How will you respond to opposition and rejection when you share the gospel?

Pray Together: Dear Father, empower us with the Holy Spirit to have the courage and boldness in sharing the truth about Jesus. That in everything we do, we will point people to You. Give us grace and strength to be faithful ambassadors of Your Son. Amen.

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