

Acts

The Beautiful Gospel

Warm-Up Questions:

- How has your relationship with your earthly father impacted the way you view your heavenly father (either positively or negatively)?

READ: Acts 13:14b-33a, 35-52

I. The Beautiful Gospel: The Message (Acts 13:26, 32-33a)

- How many times in Acts 13:17-33 is God the subject? How does Paul show that God is the one who takes the initiative in saving us?
- How is it good news that your salvation is entirely dependent on God's initiative?
- How does Paul provide credibility to the Gospel message? How do these things strengthen your faith?
- How does the Gospel message satisfy the deepest longing of our hearts? How has it satisfied your deepest longings?

II. The Beautiful Gospel: The Response (Acts 13: 42, 45-46, 48-49)

- How have you seen self-righteousness manifest itself in the way you see view other people?
- What are some tangible things you can do this week to continue in the grace of God?
- How do you think continuing in the grace of God might increase our hunger for him and lead to greater joy?
- What are the things that rob you of your joy? What might this be revealing about where you place your hope and joy?

"How was it that a cult inspired by the execution of an obscure criminal in a long-vanished empire came to exercise such a transformative and enduring influence on the world?"

Tom Holland

Sermon Discussion Guide--Leader's Copy

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- How has your relationship with your earthly father impacted the way you view your heavenly father (either positively or negatively)?

We often tend to transfer what our earthly Father is like onto God.

I. The Beautiful Gospel: The Message (Acts 13:26, 32-33a)

- How many times in Acts 13:17-33 is God the subject? How does Paul show that God is the one who takes the initiative in saving us?

Paul shows how God is the one who has from the beginning, moved towards an undeserving people in grace and mercy. God is subject, moving towards Israel and the church.

- How is it good news that your salvation is entirely dependent on God's initiative?

- How does Paul provide credibility to the Gospel message? How do these things strengthen your faith?

Paul quotes the Old Testament 3x in vv. 33-35. Additionally, remember that Paul himself met Jesus and can give a personal account.

- How does the Gospel message satisfy the deepest longing of our hearts?
How has it satisfied your deepest longings?

We all long for a father who loves us.

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