



unexpected

THE DIVINE ⇌ IN BETWEEN

ACTS 13:1-12

barriers to belief

I. Expect the barrier of no one being _____ to share the gospel.

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers ... While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. vv. 1a, 2-3

II. Expect the barrier of false _____ who steer people away from the gospel.

When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. vv. 6-8

III. Expect the barrier of spiritual _____ wherever the gospel is preached.

But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?" vv. 9-10

⇨ Expect the Lord can _____ BARRIERS so the gospel can be BELIEVED. ⇩

And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord. vv. 11-12



Praying for people to come to know _____

Stepping into opportunities as you walk by the _____

Pointing people to Jesus, who loves _____

SERMON DEVOTIONAL STUDY

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Acts 13:1-12. What does the Holy Spirit do in these verses? Why is it so crucial for us to recognize the Spirit's work?

"WHAT MARKS A SPIRIT-FILLED church? A Spirit-filled church may be defined simply as one whose members walk in obedience to the will of God. Since God reveals His will in Scripture, a Spirit-filled church must be deeply committed to the Word of God. Indeed, a comparison of Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3 reveals that being filled with the Spirit and letting the Word richly dwell in one's life produce the same effects. Therefore they are the two sides of the same spiritual reality."

JOHN MACARTHUR

"It was the Holy Spirit of God Himself who told the church of Antioch to set Barnabas and Saul apart, who sent them out, who led them from place to place, and who gave power to their preaching so that converts were made and churches planted. The sending church had committed them to the grace of God for their work (14:26), and on their return they reported 'all that God had done through them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles' (14:27). True, He had done the work 'with them' (literally), in cooperation or partnership with them, but He had done it, and they gave Him the credit. The grace had come from Him; the glory must go to Him."

JOHN STOTT

2. Which of the barriers to the gospel shared in the sermon was the most surprising to you? Why?

3. Are the events of verses 1-3 an example we *must* follow today, an example we *may* follow, or was it a completely unique event in history never to be repeated? Support your opinion with Scripture.

4. Luke tells us that Paul was freshly filled with the Holy Spirit in order to show that his boldness, outspokenness and power in condemning Elymas were all from God. Why do you think Paul was so severe in his reprimand? In what situations should we speak in the same manner to someone today? When should we not?

5. In what ways can we be a barrier to the gospel ourselves? What steps should we take so we aren't a hindrance to others as they encounter Jesus?

6. What barriers to the gospel have you seen as you endeavor to talk to others about Jesus? How has the sermon encouraged you to pray with purpose and perseverance for them?

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
"Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

For more about having a personal relationship with Jesus visit www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps.

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.



ELDER AND DEACON NOMINATIONS

This Sunday, and for the past two Sundays, you can scan this QR code to see our full list of Elder and Deacon candidates. This list has been unanimously approved by our Board of Elders, and there you'll also find the constitutional requirements for these leadership positions. If you are a constitutional member of Christ Chapel, you'll receive a voting link at the end of the month to cast your vote. This link will be sent out prior to our annual meeting held on Sunday, Aug. 27.

FAMILY VISION NIGHT Join us for Family Vision Night on Sunday, Aug. 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All families with students in Grades 5-12 are invited to enjoy dinner together, connect with other families, meet the Fort Worth Campus team and learn about the vision for the upcoming year in student ministry. No RSVP is required. See you there!

AVENEW Whether you're dating, engaged or newly married, there's a spot for you at AVENEW this fall. This class walks with couples through topics every relationship encounters while pointing back to Jesus and what His Word says about relationships, communication, conflict and more. Find details today by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew.

WOMEN IN THE WORD: DAVID'S SONGS A place to connect, grow and learn, Women in the Word is a ministry designed for women of all ages to be in community around God's Word! This fall, join the Women in the Word study on Psalms at www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw.

BAND OF BROTHERS: THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED Starting this fall, Band of Brothers will continue their journey through Exodus and witness the steadfast faithfulness God has for his people. To learn more about Band of Brothers, and this upcoming study, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/bob.

ENCOURAGED & EQUIPPED Our Women's ministry has an incredible resource for you! Search for the Encouraged & Equipped podcast and hear stories from other CCBC women as they share about how the gospel has changed their lives and what that practically looks like in the everyday. From their wisdom to all the laughs, you'll want to join in on the conversation! Find it today on your favorite podcast platforms.

BE, MAKE AND REACH WITH LIVE PRODUCTION If you have experience and interest in live production and camera operation, we'd love to chat with you. Learn more at: www.ccbcfamily.org/production.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?

Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.