

THE GOSPEL WAVE: CATCH THE WIND OF THE SPIRIT

Acts 14:1-28

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Introduction

- The book of Acts: the energy & excitement of the Christians coupled with the problems and challenges of the early church, yet the Gospel keeps moving forward so dynamically. That's what we desire for our church in our day!
- The day of Pentecost (Acts 2): Great wind of the Holy Spirit swept through Jesus' followers and filled them with new joy, deep conviction and the sense of God's powerful presence with them.
- Today's text (Acts 14): **What are the marks of those who spread the Gospel so effectively for God?**

1. **GOSPEL URGENCY:** Establish the priority of getting the Gospel out to others
 - (a) Announcing the Gospel & living by it (14: 3; cf 13: 26-41; Rom 4: 24-25; 1 Cor 5:17)
 - (b) Embracing the witness of signs & wonders (14: 3,9-10)
 - (c) Connecting with the need & worldview of the person reached out to (14:15-17; cf 17:30-31)
2. **BOLD PERSEVERANCE:** Keep going courageously through the ups & downs of witnessing to Jesus
 - (a) Don't be intimidated by hostility (14:3,21)
 - (b) Press on despite setbacks (14:5-7,19-20)

3. **FERVENT DISCIPLE-MAKING:** Strengthen the soul and walk of those younger in the faith
 - (a) Encourage them to continue steadfastly through trials & temptations (14:22)
 - (b) Ensure they are under the good & stable care of shepherd-leaders (14:23)

4. **HUMBLE DEPENDENCE:** Lean entirely on the grace of God
 - (a) Receive prayer that commends you to the grace of God (14:26)
 - (b) Experience the reality of God working with you (14:27)

Conclusion:

- Who gives us the power to bear these marks? Acts 1:8
- The Gospel spreads through messengers whose sails are filled with the Spirit of God!