## **Spiritual Grit**

October 1, 2023 Acts 14:19-28

In our study thru Acts, we cannot miss the challenges and difficulties faced by the early church. In reality, all of us face challenges and difficulties in life. Paul was deeply concerned with the endurance or "stickability" of those who had professed faith in Christ. Certainly the Scripture teaches that all who truly believe will persevere to the end. However, the Bible also provides ample encouragement for us to endure life's challenges with faithfulness to Christ. In Acts 14, we see Paul experiencing difficulty and he wanted to encourage the believers to remain faithful in the face of trials and troubles in life. I encourage you to remain faithful!

(James 1:12; Galatians 6:9; Rom. 2:7, 5:3-5; James 1:2-4; Phil. 3:13-14; 2 Peter 1:3-5)

## WE NEED SPIRITUAL GRIT

Paul and the disciples demonstrated tremendous courage. They went back into the midst of danger for the sake of other believers.

- Spiritual disciplines are the preparation for growing spiritual grit
- Life experience is the playing field for growing spiritual grit

James 1:2–3 (NASB95) 2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

Colossians 1:11 (NASB95) Strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously.

## WE NEED SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

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1 Peter 5:10 (NASB95) After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.

• We need to be encouraged (to continue)

(John 8:31; Colossians 1:21-23; Hebrews 3:6)

• We need appointed spiritual leaders in our lives

Ephesians 4:11–12 (NASB95) <sup>11</sup> And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.