

## Personal Study Guide // Life Group Connection Guide

Seeks to help you dig deeper into God's Word on your own and/or aid in small group discussion in a Life Group during the week. Follow the simple prompts below in a journal or together in a small group setting. If you would like to join a midweek Life Group, please contact: [jon@neighborhoodchurch.com](mailto:jon@neighborhoodchurch.com)

### Apr 14 — *STEPPING OUT* despite **opposition** (*Acts 14:1-28*)

- **Welcome & Ice Breaker**

- Share of a time when God sent you a person to help you through a tough season. Or share a time when God sent you to be a person to help someone going through a tough season.

- **Important Dates**

- **Pickleball Tournament**, Saturday April 20, 11:00AM • Cypress Campus Parking Lot
  - *More details here:* [tinyurl.com/pt42oncc](https://tinyurl.com/pt42oncc)
- **Welcome to the Family Church Membership Class** • Sundays April 21, 28, May 5 & 12
  - *If interested, please email:* [terry@neighborhoodchurch.com](mailto:terry@neighborhoodchurch.com)

- **Missional Sharing:**

- This time of sharing is dedicated to help us strengthen awareness of the Holy Spirit's prompting in our lives and, help us share our opportunities and obstacles as we encourage each other to follow where Jesus leads.
- 1-2 group members will share the following each week:

- *Who is the Holy Spirit bringing to your attention in the last 7 days? What do you notice about that person? How have you felt God has prompted you to interact with them? What has kept you from do that? How can our life group pray for you this next week.*

- **Scripture Passage: Acts 14:1-28**

- Begin by reading the passage out loud; even a few times if it is a shorter passage in order to let it settle down inside you.
- As the Scripture is being read, pay attention to any word, phrase, or feeling that the Holy Spirit may be highlighting to you.
- Then share what you noticed and/or write down your observations as the Spirit leads.

- **Discussion/Personal Reflection:**

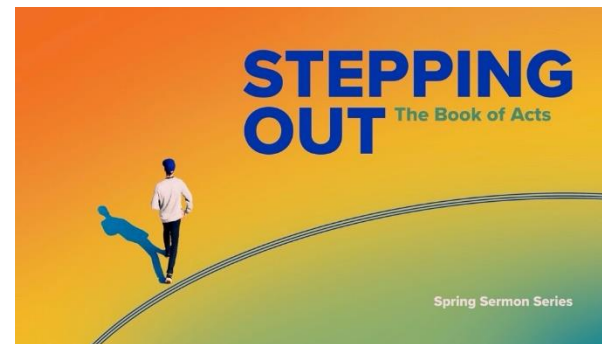
- What challenged or impacted you during your devotional time with the Lord Jesus this week?
- If you were able to hear it, what did the Holy Spirit point out to you personally from Sunday's sermon?
- Read Acts 14:1-7. What can we learn about God in this passage? (God works in miracles, God called many to have a relationship with him, God protects Paul and Barnabas.) What can we learn about Paul's and Barnabas' ministry? (Spending a long time, speaking boldly)

- Friendship evangelism is a long process of earning trust, listening to people's needs, caring for them in every season, praying for them. How is Paul and Barnabas "spending considerable amount of time" in Iconium instructive for our strategy of evangelism today? (pros and cons)

- Read Acts 14:14-20. Paul's one line preaching was "turn from these worthless things and turn to the living God" is so good.
  - What worthless things do others pursue?
  - What worthless things do we pursue in our lives?
  - What ways can we pursue the living God? In what ways can we show by our lives (finances, hobbies, parenting, neighboring, voting, social media consumption, etc.) that we are pursuing the living God?
  - In what ways do we need the Holy Spirit's help to help us pursue the living God?

- **Closing in Prayer:**

- Use this time to share prayer requests (with the Lord in a journal or with each other in a Life Group), holding them up to the Lord Jesus for His care & guidance this next week.
- Consider those who the Holy Spirit may be placing on your heart to pray for this day. Seek to hold them up to the Lord for His intervening love in their lives or in your own.
- *"Lord, who are You putting on my heart today? Who needs a special touch from You in their life? Who can I hold up to You in prayer?"*



## Stepping Out Despite Opposition

**Acts 14:1-28**

**April 14, 2024**

1. SPEND time with people. *Acts 14:3*
2. PROCLAIM the simple gospel. *Acts 14:15*
3. ENCOURAGE others to persevere. *Acts 14:22*

### Verses on how to Persevere through suffering:

- Psalms 44:22
- Romans 8:35-39
- John 16:33
- 2 Corinthians 6:3-10
- 2 Timothy 1:7-10
- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
- James 1:2-4
- 1 Peter 5:9-10
- 2 Corinthians 4:8-12
- Hebrews 12:1-3