

Week 7 – “The Fellowship of the Ring”: Serving, surrendering and conflict

Acts 13: 1-4

Context

Here we find the narrative in Acts now turn to story of Paul and the start of his missionary expeditions. Paul came from a strict Pharisee tradition where he persecuted the church, and now we see him being commissioned by the church and the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

Jesus happened. And through our Lord, Paul became faithful, available, and teachable. He recognised his gifting in preaching and teaching and began to do this in the local synagogue, surrounding himself with Christians, and to the point where the church then sends him off to spread the Gospel with other prophets and teachers.

Paul was F.A.T (Faithful. Available. Teachable).

Questions

What is your gifting/role in Hope church? Are you an apostle, prophets, evangelist, shepherd, or teacher (APEST)? Are you F.A.T and willing to serve and surrender?

Acts 15: 36-41

Context

Coming back off their first mission together, Paul and Barnabas return to Antioch and then decide to mission to the church's they had previously setup.

But...

They have a serious disagreement and part ways. Conflict is clearly inevitable at times in our community and ministry.

Questions

How do you deal with conflict? Are you a reconciler? Are your arms naturally open and ready to reconcile when necessary - like our Lord's on the cross?

Acts 16: 13-15

Context

Paul, on another mission, is called to Philippi to spread the Gospel. It is here he comes across Lydia who welcomes him into her household.

Questions

In our new community, our new mission field, how will you get the invite? How will you be a friend to those that live there?

Reading plan

Acts 15, 16, 17, 18.