

Trials and Triumphs on the Missions Trail

Pastor Ross S. Russell, Church on the Beach, 4-26-20

Text: Acts 14

1. Unbelievers will work hard to sway people from their faith in Jesus. *Acts 14:2, Colossians 2:8*

That's what we see happening today. The unbelieving part of our world works hard to change the minds of the people. Our media, academia, etc. embitters the culture against Jesus.

2. Sometimes it's best to leave and preach somewhere else. *Acts 14:5-6*

When Paul learned of their plot to mistreat them and stone them, they went to Lycaonia, Lystra, Derbe, and the surrounding regions and continued to preach the Good News.

3. Faith and healing go hand-in-hand. *Matthew 13:58; Mark 5:34, 10:52; Luke 8:50, Acts 3:16, 14:9; James 5:15*

We need to come to God with faith for healing. Faith is often a necessary prerequisite for healing. Faith and healing go hand in hand. Let's come to Jesus with faith and ask for healing.

4. Some people still won't understand. *Acts 14:18, Matthew 7:14*

Many simply won't understand for different reasons. Usually it is due to hardness of heart and pride.

5. Tribulations will come. *Acts 13:22, 2 Timothy 3:10-16, 4:18*

It's been said that if you are not being persecuted on some level, then you are not living your life fully for God. If we're not being bothered, maybe we aren't saying enough about Jesus! Remember, how will they know unless they hear? And how will they hear unless we tell them. Tribulations will come, but it's okay. God will never leave you or forsake you. Whether it is being arrested in a foreign country like many missionaries are experiencing, or simply being made fun of by family members, friends, or coworkers. Tribulations will come.

6. Tell others what God has done. *Acts 13:27*

It will build our faith. And it is a great way to witness!