



## BIBLE STUDY

**APRIL 23, 2024**

**Instructor: Elder Gwendolyn Broussard**

**The Book of Acts**

**“Can I Get a Witness-The Gospel To The Ends Of the Earth”**

**Acts 14:21-28**

**“NECESSARY HARDSHIPS – ENCOURAGE AND STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH TO CONTINUE IN THE FAITH”**

**THE RETURN HOME**

**TRIALS & TRIBULATIONS - ENCOURAGEMENT & STRENGTHENING**

**V21) After they had preached the gospel to the city of Debre, they made many disciples despite the persecution that took place in Lystra. The Holy Spirit had them return to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch to encourage and strengthen the souls of the disciples.**

**V22) Paul told the disciples that they must go through many tribulations in order to enter the kingdom of God. Suffering does play a significant part in the plans of God to fulfill His purpose.**

**V23) Paul and Barnabas sought the Lord in whom they believed with prayer and fasting in commending the appointed and anointed Elders**

to lead the churches and that the Lord would protect the spiritual integrity of His body, the church.

V24-25) Paul and Barnabas passed through Pisidia and Pamphylia though it's not stated what their actions were in these cities, (may have run into serious opposition or encouraged the souls of the disciples or both) until they reached Perga (located within Pamphylia) where they preached the word, then headed to Attalia to catch a ship to head home to Syrian Antioch.

V26) "...for the work which they had completed." We now know that this was only partially true. Paul would make three additional missionary journeys to take the gospel to the ends of the earth, and the work of spreading the gospel is still going forth today.

V27-28) In Antioch, they gathered the church together and reported on the great success they had in spite of the persecution and oppression they endured; how God opened the door of faith to the gentiles.

This showed the church that what God did in Antioch (Syria) was not unique. Instead God did it again, and again, again all over the world.

#### SCRIPTURES TO ENCOURAGE, STRENGTHEN, AND KEEP THE FAITH

HEBREWS 10:13

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4

DEUTERONOMY 31:8

GENESIS 50:20

PHILIPPIANS 4:7

ROMANS 5:3-5

PSALM 34:15

JAMES 4:8

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

ISAIAH 55:11

