Lesson Eleven: To Asia Minor

Herod and the Church (read verses 12:1-24)

- 1) What part did the believers in Jerusalem have in Peter's escape from Herod (12:5)?
- 2) God saved Peter from being executed by Herod, but He allowed James to die (12:2). What conclusion about persecution, prayer, and deliverance can we draw from these facts?

Barnabas and Saul commissioned (read verses 12:25-13:3)

- 3) In your judgement, why are worshiping the Lord and fasting (13:2) both important preparations for hearing the Holy Spirit speak?
- 4) Once the Spirit had spoken and the missionaries were prepared to leave, the believers fasted, prayed, and laid their hands on these two men. What was the point of these actions?

Cyprus (read verses 13:4-12)

5) Do you believe that modern day evangelists have the ability to convince people to listen to their message the same way that Paul was able to convince the pro-consul? Why or why not?

Pisidian Antioch (read verses 13:13-52)

- 6) In the first part of his sermon, Paul traces the Israelite history. What episodes does he mention?
 - a) 13:16-19
 - b) 13:20-22
 - c) 13:23-25
 - d) 13:26-31
- 7) Next Paul explains the significance of these events. What has God promised the Jews that He has now fulfilled (13:32-37)?
- 8) What happens when many of the Jews reject Paul's message (see 13:14-51)?
- 9) In Acts 13:47, Paul quotes Isaiah 49:6, which was originally addressed to the Servant of the Lord (see Acts 3:13; Isaiah 49:1-7). Why can Paul apply the Servant's commission to himself and Barnabas? (*Optional*: See John 20:21; Acts 9:15; 1 Corinthians 12:27.)

Your Response: (consider doing one or more of these activities this week)

✓ Find the name of a specific individual or group of Christians in the world who are being persecuted or suffering and pray for them (12:5).

✓ Does 13:47 express your mission in any way? If so, what steps can you take to fulfill it better?

✓ Write down one or more insights from this week's reading that apply to your life. How can you begin to put one of these insights into practice with prayer and/or action?