



Worship Guide for **June 23, 2019**

## Sermon Notes

Wi-Fi password for westwoodguestsecured: westwoodguest

### **Paul's School of Hard Knocks** Acts 14:8-20 (pew Bible pg. 923)

Paul and Barnabas have been preaching in the area of Galatia. They have been kicked out of Pisidian Antioch. Then they head out to Iconium, and there they experience immediate success, and immediate opposition. Again, they are forced to leave town. But they are pioneer missionaries, and the Holy Spirit is still filling them with a zeal to share the good news, regardless of opposition they face. Perhaps this is what Paul has in mind when he wrote, *"I know what it is to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* (Philippians 4:12-13)

The next stop on the mission trip is the small remote frontier outpost of Lystra. Here we are reminded that one of the reasons we have so many unreached people in the world is that they often live in extreme, hard-to-reach places in the middle of nowhere. And many of these people are violently hostile to Christianity. Here in Acts 14 we see an example of the type of "grace-enabled endurance" (Platt) that must reside in our hearts if we are going to reach our community and our world with the gospel. We see what it means to be flexible in how we share the gospel. We see the depth of our sin, and how easy it is to want to add Jesus to our list of idols. And we again see what it looks like to persevere in the face of opposition and be willing to suffer for the sake of the gospel. These are some of the lessons we can learn in Paul's School of Hard Knocks.

Lesson One: Flexibility in sharing the gospel- find a point of contact and start where they are.

Lesson Two: Depravity in the heart – the desire to elevate men and diminish Jesus.

Lesson Three: Perseverance in the mission - we are called to suffer for the sake of the gospel.

Applications:

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Applications:

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## Weekly Discipleship Guide

Use this guide to help you reflect upon and internalize today's passage and message! Using a journal or a notebook, follow the daily prompts below. We also use these guides to guide our discussions in our Life Groups each week as we seek to grow together in the Word!

### Sunday

*In your journal, reflect on today's sermon by answering the following:*

I never knew:

I was challenged:

I was reminded:

I was convicted:

A question I still have:

A truth I could share:

**Know**

### Monday

*Spend some time today doing the following:*

Read the sermon passage again.

Select a portion of this week's sermon passage to memorize this week.

Write your selected portion and read it to yourself at least 10 times throughout the day and meditate on that portion this week.

**Know > Be**

### Tuesday

*In your journal, spend some time writing about the following:*

Read the sermon passage again.

Write a prayer of response, specifically guided by the passage.

(May include adoration, confession/repentance, thanksgiving, petition, etc...)

Continue to meditate on a memorize the selection you chose from yesterday.

**Be**

### Wednesday

*Think about this week's questions for group discussion:*

Read Philippians 4:12-13 together again. What obstacles exist in your life that prevent you from being as confident as Paul is in this exertion? Paul says he has learned this...in what ways are you disciplining yourself in this way?

In what unique ways are Christians increasingly called to 'suffer' in gospel work in our own culture? In what ways do our hearts need to be conditioned to suffer in this way?

What is one commitment you can make in order to grow in "grace-enabled endurance?"  
How do we pursue this?

**Be > Do**

### Thursday

*In your journal, spend some time considering the following:*

What insights have you gained while internalizing this week's passage?

How specifically will you seek to apply its truths in your home/workplace/life in general?

**Do**

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**Do**

#### Westwood Staff

**Gerald Hodges:** Lead Pastor  
**Jonathan Taylor:** Associate Pastor  
**Jim Fulp:** Counseling Pastor  
**Jason Engle:** Pastor of Students & Discipleship  
**Katie Austin:** Children's Ministry Coordinator

#### Contact Us

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www.westwoodfamily.org

#### Upcoming Events

June 28 - WBC vs. Mt. Harmony  
June 30 - Football Ministry Signup begins  
July 3 - Church Picnic @ Mayo Park  
July 9 - Summer Nights Kid's Club  
July 10 - Katie's Klass for Kids  
July 25 - Durham Bulls Ballgame

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