

Acts 1:1

The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, . . .

??? How do we engage with Jesus in such a way that He continues to “do and teach” through us

- as individuals and
- as a church?

Jesus Acts Thru Those Who Are Open to His Lead

Acts 13:1-15

October 30, 2011

Pastor Kelly J. Mahoney

Openness to Jesus' lead starts with following His example!

Philippians 2:5-6

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

l) Open _____ seeking God's _____.

a. Self preservation –vs- Spiritual practices

➤ Safety

➤ Security

➤ Support

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Philippians 2:5-7

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

1) Open _____ seeking God's _____.

Acts 13:1-2

Now there were at Antioch, in the church that was there,
prophets and teachers:

Barnabas,

and Simeon who was called Niger,

and Lucius of Cyrene,

and Manaen who had been brought up with Herod
the tetrarch,

and Saul.

l) Open _____ seeking God's _____.

b. Self-directed -vs- Spirit-led

- I call the shots
- I come up with a vision
- I implement my agenda
- My life
- My resources
- My church

1) Open ears seeking God's leading.

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2 While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

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b. Self-directed -vs- Spirit-led

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ➤ I call the shots | Submit to Jesus' leadership |
| ➤ I come up with a vision | Seek the Lord's leading |
| ➤ I implement my agenda | Responsiveness to God |
| ➤ My life | Crucified with Christ (Gal. 2:20) |
| ➤ My resources | God's resources |
| ➤ My church | God's church |

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Acts 13:1-2

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☐ Are we hungry to hear the Lord's direction for our lives?

☐ Are we open to God's leading?

II) Open hands releasing God's representatives and resources.

Acts 13:3

Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

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☐ Are we willing to go and let go as the Lord leads?

III) Open _____ obedient to God's _____.

Acts 13:4

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

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!!! Jesus continued to “do and teach” through them!

III) Open hearts obedient to God's call.

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Aby & Babitha Kallimel

- South Asia

Jason & Christa Erno

- Asia

Jeff & Cheryl Norbie

- Washington State

Andy & Sara O'Rourke

- Minneapolis

Jesus lead by His example of obedience and sacrifice in response to the Father's leading.

Philippians 2:8

Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming _____.

Acts 13:4-6

So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they reached Salamis, they began to proclaim the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews; and they also had John as their helper. 6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, . . .

Antioch to Seleucia to Salimas, Cyprus thru to Paphos . . .



IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming opposition.

Acts 13:6-8

When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found

a magician,

a Jewish false prophet

whose name was Bar-Jesus,

7 who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus,

a man of intelligence.

This man summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for so his name is translated) was opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith.

IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming opposition.

Acts 13:9-10

But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fixed his gaze on him, 10 and said,

"You who are

full of all deceit

and fraud,

you son of the devil,

you enemy of all righteousness,

will you not cease to make crooked the
straight ways of the Lord?

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Acts 13:9, 11

But Saul, who was also known as Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, . . .

11 "Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time." And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand.

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11 "Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time." And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand.

!!! The Lord's Spirit and the Lord's hand overcame opposition to the God's word!

IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming opposition.

Acts 13:12

Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, being amazed at the teaching of the Lord.

IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming opposition.

Acts 13:13-15

13 ¶ Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem. 14 But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading of the Law and the Prophets the synagogue officials sent to them, saying, "Brethren, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it."

Paphos, to Perga in Pamphylia and onto Pisidian Antioch.



IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming opposition.

Saul followed Jesus' example.

Saul was obedient to God's call on his life.

Acts 9:15-16

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; 16 for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."

IV) Open mouths proclaiming God's word and overcoming opposition.

We each have a call on our lives as well!

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Philippians 2:9-11

For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

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Jesus Acts Thru Those Who Are Open to His Lead

Open **ears**

Open **hands**

Open **hearts**

Open **mouths**

Applying God's Word to Life

- 1) Have you opened your heart to Jesus and confessed Christ as Lord?
- 2) What are some ways you could intentionally open your ears to seek the Lord's leading on a daily & weekly basis?
- 3) In what small ways could a greater openness to the Lord help you grow spiritually?

Self preservation 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 ***Spiritual practices?***

Self-directed 1 -- 2 -- 3 -- 4 -- 5 -- 6 -- 7 -- 8 ***Spirit-led?***

- 4) How open are you to be used by God to share the hope found in Him?