

ACTS
4. PAUL'S FIRST JOURNEY: 12:1-15:35
STUDY AHEAD

- 1. Acts 12.** This is a “transitional” chapter, taking us back to Jerusalem where the story started. Note how the disciples were faring under intense persecution. Also note the final appearance of Peter in the book of Acts.
- 2. Acts 13:1-3.** Notice how the Holy Spirit initiated the next phase of the mission. Who was Paul’s key companion?
- 3. Acts 13:4-22.** Why do you think they chose to go to the island of Cyprus first? Hint: See Acts 4:36. Who was their “helper?”
- 4. Acts 13:7,12.** Who was the first convert on Cyprus? Why was this significant?
- 5. Acts 13:13-43.** Luke gives a rather full account of Paul’s first sermon in the synagogue at Pisidian Antioch (there were two Antiochs; one in Caesarea, the center of the church, and one further north [Pisidian Antioch] in the Galatian region). Read it through. What do you learn about Paul’s message to his fellow Jewish countrymen from this sermon?
- 6. Acts 13:44-52.** What happened when they returned to the synagogue a week later?
- 7. Acts 14:1-7.** What happened to the team in Iconium?
- 8. Acts 14:8-20.** What happened to Paul in Lystra (v.19)? Where did he go when he “revived” (v.20)? Would you have done that?
- 9. Acts 14:21-24.** Study these verses carefully. After they reached “the end” of the Galatian city-tour, where did they go (v.21)? What did they do in these cities? What does this tell you about their care for the welfare of the newly forming Christian communities?
- 10.** What do you think it would have been like to be a Christ-follower in one of these cities, after Paul and his team departed?
- 11. Acts 15:1-35.** Read through the account of the very first “Church council” meeting. What was the dispute about? How did they go about resolving the dispute? What was the resolution? How did they communicate the resolution to the wider Christian community?