

There and back again.

(Acts 13:1-14:28)

God is on the move; we can join him.

- I. God takes people who are moving towards Him and directs them where He wants them to go.** (Acts 13:1-3)
 - a. This was a huge step of obedience.
 - b. This was God's work; they were invited to join in it.

- II. Opposition to God's work is inevitable.** (Acts 13:4-14:25)
 - a. They were ignored but were finding their voice. (13:4-6a)
 - b. They were attacked but God was victorious. (13:6b-12)
 - c. They were abandoned but remained faithful. (13:13)
 - d. They got sick and planted a church. (13:14)
 - e. They were confronted and God defended them. (13:15-51)
 - f. They were misunderstood and God was exalted. (14:11-18)
 - g. They were left for dead and God sustained them. (14:19)
 - h. They stayed on mission and it was always God's mission. (14:20-25)

Questions for reflection and family/small group discussion:

1. What do you think made it possible for these men to leave everything to obey God's call?
2. Paul describes that the recipient of the gospel of Jesus Christ is "freed" (Acts 14:8). In what ways does the good news of the gospel set us free? Paul warned that there will be some that are "astounded by the gospel but ignore it and perish" (Acts 14:41). Why is this warning so significant?
3. What do you think it felt like for them to be asked by God to go back to those difficult places that they had ministered to? What do you think led them to obey God's call?