



USEFUL TO THE LORD Whatever Comes Next

ACTS 13:46-52

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • February 26 & 27, 2022 • Acts, week 66 • Msg. 22-08

1. Embrace _____ (vv.46-47)

Acts 13:46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. **47** For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.' "

2. Trust _____ (vv.48-49)

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. **49** And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. **50** But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. **51** But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium.

3. Choose _____ (vv.50-52)

52 And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. (ESV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **1 Corinthians 4:19; 2 Corinthians 1:16-20; Proverbs 16:9** and **Romans 8:27-28**. Though the biblical truth of a divinely-purposed change to our plans is often offered as a trite cliché, how have you found those unexpected and often painful “detours” in your life to be fruitful open doors for eternally important outcomes?
2. Read **2 Corinthians 1:6-10; 12:7-10**. Paul did not travel to Asia with the goal of suffering affliction. Nor did he plan or pray to have a chronic physical ailment. Yet all of this was in the path of God's good plans for him. How can these reminders from Paul's life help you to boldly and courageously do the will of God, even amid difficulties?
3. Read **Acts 13:46-52**. How might God be using circumstances or “open” and “closed doors” to provide evangelistic opportunities for you?
4. Read **Luke 15:1-7**. Why should the joy of being useful to the Lord in leading someone to repentance and faith in Christ be better than circumstantial comfort?
5. Read **Isaiah 35:10**. What can you do to seek to settle your heart and mind on the spiritual realities that ought to fill God's people with joy and the Holy Spirit?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

February 27th

Num.18-20 & Mk.7:1-13

February 28th

Num.21-23 & Mk.7:14-8:10

March 1st

Num.24-27 & Mk.8:11-38

March 2nd

Num.28-29 & Mk.9:1-29

March 3rd

Num.30-31 & Mk.9:30-50

March 4th

Num.32-33 & Mk.10:1-31

March 5th

Num.34-36 & Mk.10:32-52

March 6th

Deut.1-2 & Mk.11:1-19

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 22-01 – **Anything, Anyplace, Anytime**

Msg. 21-32 – **Reluctant Evangelists**

Msg. 17-16 – **Loving God's Challenging Work**

Msg. 13-07 – **Grateful for God's Inclusive Plan**

Msg. 20-28 – **Summer Fruit: Joy**

Msg. 16-17 – **Cultivating Biblical Optimism**

Msg. 21-19 – **Showing Up for Divine Appointments**

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PastorMike

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Alcorn, Randy. **Happiness**. Tyndale House Publishers, 2015.

Barclay, William B. **The Secret of Contentment**. P & R Publishing, 2011.

Burroughs, Jeremiah. **The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1981.

Hefley, James and Marti. **By Their Blood: Christian Martyrs of the 20th Century**. Baker Books, 1996.

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. **A Life of Joy and Peace: An Exposition of Philippians**. Baker Books, 1995.

Mack, Wayne. **Courage: Fighting Fear with Fear**. P & R Publishing, 2014.

Packer, J. I. **Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God**. InterVarsity Press, 1991.

Pink, A. W. **The Sovereignty of God**. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 2009.

Piper, John & Justin Taylor, eds. **Suffering and the Sovereignty of God**. Crossway, 2006.

Stowell, Joseph. **Eternity: Reclaiming a Passion for What Endures**. Chicago: Moody Press, 1995.

Thoennes, K. Erik. **Godly Jealousy: A Theology of Intolerant Love**. Christian Focus Publications, 2005.

Thomas, Derek, ed. **Zeal for Godliness**. EP Books, 2012.

Vlach, Michael J. **Has the Church Replaced Israel? A Theological Evaluation**. B & H, 2010.

Watson, Thomas. **The Art of Divine Contentment**. Soli Deo Gloria Publications, 1653 (reprint, 1998).