

How Do I Get Past Disappointments? (Part 2)

Theme: When Jealousy Disrupts My Destiny

Scripture: Acts 14:1-17

I. Why This Study?

A. Premise:

1. Disappointments, especially those rooted in _____ and _____, can threaten to derail our purpose. Acts 14:1-17 continues Paul and Barnabas' journey, showing us that even when jealousy disrupts, _____ to God's mission leads to _____.

B. Purpose:

1. This study builds on Acts 13:13-52 by showing how Paul and Barnabas persevered in the face of opposition. We will explore how to remain steadfast, handle jealousy-driven attacks, and continue in bold _____ to God.

II. Overview and Context: Acts 14:1-17

A. Paul and Barnabas continued their mission in Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe, preaching with _____.

B. Yet, jealousy and opposition followed them, leading to _____, _____, and even physical harm.

C. Despite these challenges, God performed _____, showing that opposition cannot stop His plan.

III. Key Verses:

- A. Acts 14:2 – Opposition stirred by _____.
- B. Acts 14:3 – Boldness in the face of _____.
- C. Acts 14:8-10 – God’s _____ working through Paul.
- D. Acts 14:19-20 – Perseverance despite _____.

IV. Navigating Jealousy and Opposition in Acts 14

- A. Opposition Will Follow Your Purpose (Acts 14:1-2)
 - 1. Paul and Barnabas’ preaching led to many _____, but opposition soon arose.
 - 2. Cultural Insight: The phrase “stirred up” (Greek: epēgeiran) implies _____ agitation—jealousy-fueled opposition that disrupts peace.
 - 3. Application: Jealousy doesn’t come because you are failing; it comes because your obedience threatens those _____ to control.
- B. Boldness Requires _____ on God (Acts 14:3-7)
 - 1. Despite resistance, Paul and Barnabas continued preaching with boldness, and God confirmed their message with miraculous signs.
 - 2. Key Truth: Bold obedience brings divine _____—God’s power manifests when we stand firm.
 - 3. Application: When facing opposition, _____ God’s presence rather than backing down in fear.
- C. Misunderstandings and False Honor Can Distract You (Acts 14:8-18)

1. In Lystra, after a miraculous healing, Paul and Barnabas were _____ for gods.
2. Cultural Insight: The people of Lystra believed in the Greek gods Zeus and Hermes. The apostles had to correct them, redirecting _____ to the true God.
3. Application: Beware of how opposition can come in the form of misplaced praise. Stay humble, and always point people back to Christ.

D. Perseverance Despite Betrayal (Acts 14:19-20)

1. The same crowd that once tried to _____ Paul later turned against him, stoning him and leaving him for dead.
2. Key Truth: People's opinions are fickle; our faith must be _____ in God, not public approval.
3. Application: Even when falsely accused, mistreated, or betrayed, keep pressing forward.

V. Application: How Do I Keep Going Despite Jealousy and Disappointment?

A. Recognize That Opposition is Proof of Your Purpose

1. Opposition is not a sign to quit but a sign that you are a _____ to darkness.

B. Stay Rooted in God's _____, Not Human _____

1. Do not let flattery or criticism distract you. Stay focused on God's mission.

C. Keep Speaking and Acting in Boldness

1. Like Paul and Barnabas, continue proclaiming truth _____ of resistance.

D. Trust God's Sovereignty Over Every Outcome

1. Even after being left for dead, Paul got up and continued his journey. God's power _____ us beyond our worst.

VI. Disappointments

A. Acts 14 teaches us that jealousy and opposition do not have the power to _____ God's plan. When we remain bold, trust in God's strength, and persevere despite resistance, we walk in divine purpose. Let us be a people who press on, knowing that our ultimate victory is not found in human approval but in fulfilling the mission God has set before us.

B. Even when jealousy disrupts, God's destiny remains unstoppable.

VII. Reflection Questions

A. Opposition and Perseverance:

1. How do you handle jealousy or resistance in your own life or ministry?
2. What helps you stay focused when others try to derail your calling?

B. Boldness and Faith:

1. What situations in your life require boldness right now?
2. How can you depend on the Holy Spirit to strengthen your faith in those moments?

C. Staying Focused on God's Mission:

1. Have you ever been tempted to give up due to opposition?
What helped you move forward?

2. How can you encourage others to stay faithful in the midst of
their struggles?

VIII. Conclusion