CVC SERMON OUTLINE & LIFE GROUP GUIDE

Acts 14: The Long & Winding Road

A difficult road doesn't necessarily mean we're on the wrong road. Following Jesus means staying faithful even when the road gets rocky.

Key Verse: Acts 14:22 “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God.”

1. THE ROAD GETS ROUGH — Acts 14:1–7

Paul and Barnabas continued preaching even when they faced opposition.

Discuss:

- Have you ever experienced a difficult season and wondered, “God, why is this so hard?”
- Why do we sometimes assume that difficulty means we're on the wrong path?
- What does Paul's example teach us about staying faithful when people reject or oppose us?

Takeaway: Be bold—not in ourselves, but in Jesus

2. GOD GETS THE GLORY — Acts 14:8–18

God performed a miracle through Paul, but the people tried to give Paul and Barnabas the glory.

Discuss:

- Why is it easy to receive credit when God works through us?
- What are some ways we can intentionally give God the glory?
- Where do you see opportunities to point people toward Jesus through your relationships, work, or culture?

Takeaway: When God works through us, the glory belongs to Him.

3. TRUST THROUGH THE TRIALS — Acts 14:19–20

Paul was attacked and left for dead, yet he got up and continued his ministry.

Discuss:

- What stands out to you about Paul's response?

- How can suffering sometimes make us question God's presence?
- What does it look like to trust God when we don't understand what He's doing?

Takeaway: A rocky road doesn't mean God has abandoned us.

4. STRENGTHEN ONE ANOTHER — Acts 14:21–28

Paul and Barnabas returned to encourage and strengthen the believers.

Discuss:

- Why is it important to have people walking alongside us?
- Who has strengthened your faith during a difficult season?
- Who might God be asking you to encourage right now?

Takeaway: We were never meant to walk the Christian life alone.

FINAL REFLECTION

What part of Acts 14 do you most need to live out right now: Be Bold, Give God the Glory, Trust Through the Trials, or Strengthen Others?

Pray for:

- Boldness to follow Jesus.
- Humility to give God the glory.
- Faith during difficult seasons.
- Strength to encourage others.