



Acts.



PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY



Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. ³ So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. ⁴ But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. ⁵ When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, ⁶ they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, ⁷ and there they continued to preach the gospel.

ACTS 14:1-7 ESV





Iconium

The Challenge of Conflict

Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that **a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed.**

ACTS 14:1 ESV



Iconium

The Challenge of Conflict

But the **unbelieving** Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.

ACTS 14:2 ESV





Iconium

The Challenge of Conflict

So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to **the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.**

ACTS 14:3 ESV



**When faced with conflict, keep
proclaiming & practicing God's grace.**



Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked.⁹ He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well¹⁰ said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he sprang up and began walking.¹¹ And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!”¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.¹³ And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.

ACTS 14:8-13 ESV



But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, ¹⁵ “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶ In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. ¹⁷ Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.” ¹⁸ Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

ACTS 14:14-18 ESV



Lystra

The Challenge of Celebrity

Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was **crippled from birth** and had never walked. ⁹ He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, **looking intently at him** and seeing that he had faith to be made well ¹⁰ said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” **And he sprang up and began walking.**

ACTS 14:8-10 ESV



Lystra

The Challenge of Celebrity

And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, **“The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!”**¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.¹³ And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and **wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.**

ACTS 14:11-13 ESV



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ZEUS



HERMES



ZEUS
MARK



HERMES
HUNTER



If the enemy can't discourage you
with conflict, he will deceive you with praise.



Lystra

The Challenge of Celebrity

But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, **they tore their garments** and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, ¹⁵ “Men, why are you doing these things? **We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God,** who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.

ACTS 14:14-15 ESV



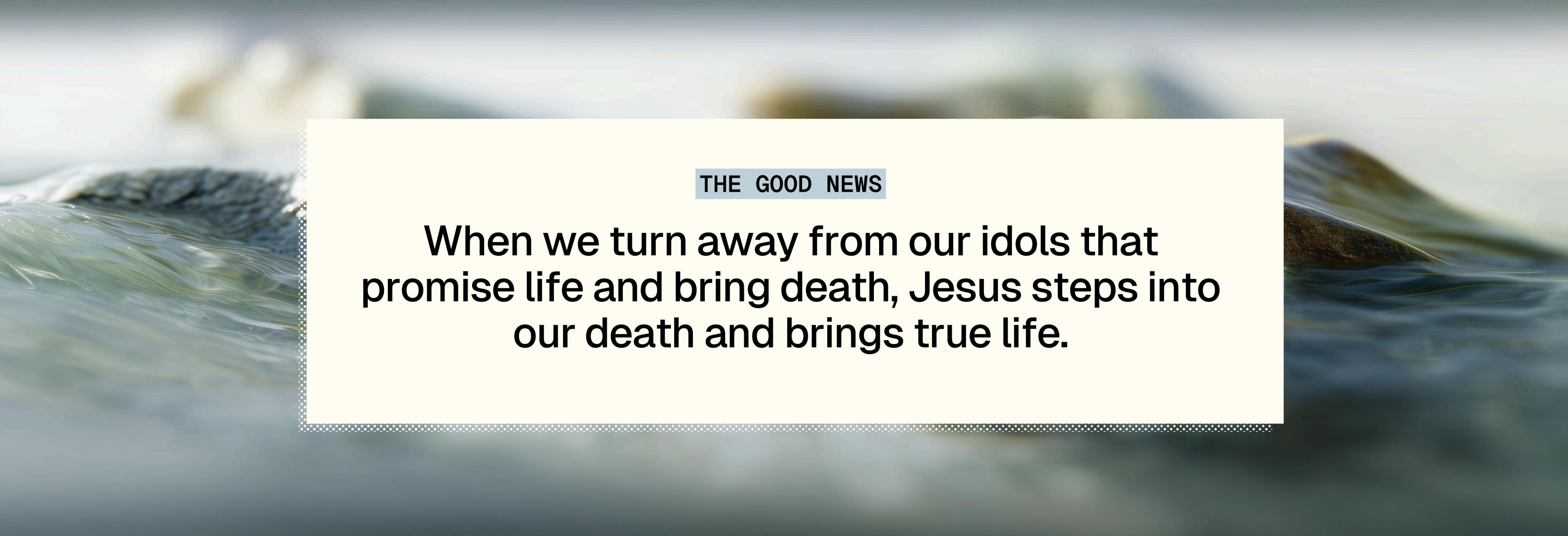


“When anything in life is an absolute requirement for your happiness and self-worth, it is essentially an ‘idol,’ something you are actually worshiping.”

- TIMOTHY KELLER

COUNTERFEIT GODS: THE EMPTY PROMISES OF MONEY,
SEX, POWER, AND THE ONLY HOPE THAT MATTERS





THE GOOD NEWS

When we turn away from our idols that promise life and bring death, Jesus steps into our death and brings true life.