



## Acts: Lystra

May 17

**INTRODUCTION:** Acts: Jesus' work, through the Apostles and disciples, by the Holy Spirit, to fulfil Acts 1:8. Paul and Barnabas are in a back water region and here they encounter pagans. Let's see how they respond differently than to Jews.

**KEY POINT:** paganism, blasphemy, general revelation



**A.M. SERMON RECAP** (Rob McFadden)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

**P.M. SERMON RECAP** (Peter Lemont)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

**READ:** Acts 14:8–18

### QUESTIONS:

1. Without a synagogue present how does the Lord give occasion to preach the Gospel?
2. What Gospel starters are at our disposal today?
3. *The story begins very similar to Acts 3. V. 9-* What does it mean to have “faith to be made well”?

4. **V. 11- what was the crowd's response?**

5. *The Latin poet, Ovid, in his work, “Metamorphoses,” recorded a local legend where the head god Zeus and his son Hermes visited the region disguised as men. They sought hospitality but were turned down 1000x until a poor family entertained them. They were rewarded richly but the populace swept away in a flood. (Inscriptions show these gods were also worshipped locally). If, because of the miracle, the gods had returned, the residents wanted to be ready!*

6. *A pagan literally means rural from when Christianity had dominated the cities. The rural folk continued to worship the old gods and goddesses of Rome (i.e. they didn't believe in one God and follow Jesus). **How are most Canadians pagan today?***

7. **Unlike Herod (12:21–23) how did they respond to this blasphemy?** (*this happened to Peter with Cornelius too*). Discuss Ps 115:1.

8. **Unlike his sermon with the Jews, Paul appeals to general revelation (Ro 1:19) and common grace (Lk 13:1–3). Why and how is this useful today?**

9. **Paul met the residents where they were (but didn't want to leave them there). Where did he want to take them? Where are our neighbours and how can we get them there? (In both cases, reflect upon the Engels Scale:**

0 to 10 (0- being absolute no knowledge or belief in God; 10 trusting in Jesus; e.g. atheist, agnostic, theist, interest in Christianity, curious about Christianity, considering Christ, trusting in Christ)

10. **V. 18- What difficulty did they have (and do we have with our pagan neighbours)?**

**NEXT:** May 24- Acts 14:19–28, Lystra II