

ACTS 13-14

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# MISSION CAPABLE PART 2

# SINCE THE DAY OF PENTECOST . . .

- ▶ The Mission thus far, has moved forward primarily through specific individuals (such as Philip and Peter) who have been prompted by the Holy Spirit, and specific events initiated by the Holy Spirit (such as Peter's ministry at Cornelius' house).
- ▶ The goal of the Mission is *"the ends of the earth"* and *"disciples of all nations"*—and to accomplish the Mission, the Holy Spirit will initiate a new focus and paradigm. From this point on, the Mission will center around systematic evangelism, the planting of new churches, and the effective involvement of those churches in the Mission.

## FOB (FORWARD OPERATING BASE): THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH

*Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.*

- ▶ prophets: reveal God's will specifically; prompt people to do
- ▶ teachers: explain Scripture systematically; enable people to become
- ▶ Barnabas: a Cypriot Jew
- ▶ Simeon, "The Black Man"
- ▶ Lucius: a Libyan
- ▶ Manaen: the foster-brother of Herod Antipas
- ▶ Rabbi Saul: a Turkish Jew and a Pharisee

## MISSION ASSIGNED

*While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.*

- ▶ worshiping and fasting: relationship (presence)
- ▶ prayer and fasting: dependence (surrender)

Our mission is a spiritual mission. If we aren't Spirit-enabled and led, we can't do spiritual work. That means we must have a spiritual perspective and be engaged in spiritual activity—worship, prayer, fasting. To be Spirit-enabled and led, we must be in a spiritual environment and a spiritual posture where the Holy Spirit can speak and we can hear His direction.



# MISSION EXECUTED

*The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus.*

- ▶ Cyprus (demonic confrontation)
- ▶ Perga (sickness)
- ▶ Psidian Antioch (persecution)
- ▶ Iconium (plot to stone them)
- ▶ Lystra (Paul stoned, left for dead)
- ▶ Derbe
- ▶ Lystra, Iconium, Perga, Antioch
- ▶ Two years; 1600 miles





## MISSION CAPABLE

*They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said.*

Paul and Barnabas expected hardship and were—

- ▶ Undeterred by opposition
- ▶ Unintimidated by threats and danger
- ▶ Unaffected by the effort or the costs

*From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga where John . . . deserted them in Pamphylia, not continuing with them in the work.*

—Acts 14.12; 15.38

## MISSION DEBRIEFING

*From Attalia they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been committed to the grace of God for the work they had now completed. On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.*

- ▶ Evangelism carried out geographically, demographically, and systematically
- ▶ New believers disciplined and strengthened in their faith
- ▶ Mentored spiritual life and leadership
- ▶ Local churches established and elders appointed for spiritual oversight
- ▶ *"A door of faith opened to the Gentiles"*

# UNDERSTANDING MISSION CAPABLE

- ▶ **Mission—**

- ▶ Enduring - the reason the unit exists
- ▶ Specific - an operation the unit is tasked to perform

- ▶ **Mission Essential Task List (METL)—**

*The things you must do in order to accomplish your enduring mission*

- ▶ **Mission Essential Tasks (METs)—**

- ▶ Types of operations the unit must do
- ▶ Identify a training plan, resource it, and execute it
- ▶ Continually assess and reassess
  - ▶ Fully Mission Capable
  - ▶ Non-Mission Capable





*Mission Capable* simply means the Soldier or item of equipment is functional and able to complete the mission—physically, medically, psychologically, and technically.

*Mission Essential Task List:* Commanders are required to conduct training in order to accomplish those objectives which will normally be the unit's mission set while deployed.

*How to stay Fully Mission Capable:* SSG Ray would tell you to conduct lots of physical training on a daily basis. Eat clean. Listen. Right place, right time, right uniform. Pay attention when training is conducted; rehearse, rehearse, rehearse!

# BECOMING A FULLY MISSION CAPABLE CHURCH

## ▶ What is the mission?

*“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

## ▶ How is the mission accomplished?

*Through an effective local church where mission originates and is carried out.*

## ▶ What mission essential tasks will make us effective?

- ▶ *Pursuing a church culture where the presence of God is experienced in an environment characterized by surrender, dependency, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit (worship, prayer, fasting)*
- ▶ *Becoming a church body that is seriously devoted to being discipled (teaching, accountability)*
- ▶ *Becoming effective disciples who are deployed and committed to “mission operations”*

# FULLY MISSION CAPABLE OR NON-MISSION CAPABLE?

- (1) Do I understand the Mission and am I an active part of it?
- (2) Am I growing as a disciple?
- (3) Am I becoming stronger to endure opposition and overcome hardship?

*[I] continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light.*

—Colossians 1.9-12