
ACTS 14 - Discipleship

Find a map of Paul's and Barnabas's first journey. They started the trip in Antioch and ended their trip in Derbe (14:20), maybe 200 miles by land from where they started. But instead of closing the circle they go backwards over 400 miles by land and then back across 400 miles of Mediterranean Sea. Why? Verse 22 says they went back through the cities they had already visited to "strengthen the disciples and encourage them to remain true to the faith." Their goal was never just to preach the gospel and then go elsewhere but to "follow-up" with those who respond and disciple them into multiplying disciples.

Think

Which is more important: evangelism or discipleship? Why?

Talk

1. Few of us are naturally balanced in both evangelism and discipleship. Most of us prefer (and are better at) one or the other. Which are you? What can we do to help each other keep a balance?
2. What do you think they did to "strengthen the disciples?" Make a list of 10 things you would teach to these new believers in each city.

Act

Who do you know that needs to be "strengthened in the faith"? What can you do to help them?