GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Wilderness Essentials **November 7,2026**
Week 2: Boldness **Jeff Griffin**
Acts 13:6-12

Life with the Lord is an adventure requiring four essential character traits. This week we see the second character trait exemplified through the first missionary journey in Cyprus.

Kicking It Off:

Share a tradition your family observes at Thanksgiving or Christmas that you think no other family does. If you don't have one, now's the time to make one up!

Discussion:

1. Would you say that you are bold or timid by nature?
2. Read Acts 13:4-5. Who went on this journey? Where did they go? What did they do there?

Which of those (people, places, and activities) would have been familiar to the missionaries (look at Acts 4:36 for a detail Jeff mentioned last week about Barnabas)? What was unfamiliar?

3. What amount of boldness does this suggest God asked of them at the start of this new venture?
4. Read Acts 13:6-12. At what point in their journey on the island does this interaction occur?
5. Who does it say the proconsul summoned (v. 7)? Look back at Acts 11:26, 11:30, 12:25, and 13:2. How are these two men listed? Thinking back to the role of Barnabas in Saul's life as we discussed last week, why would they have been named this way?

Which of the two demonstrates boldness in confronting Elymas? What enabled him to do so? What is the result for the proconsul?

"When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was amazed at the teaching about the Lord." (Acts 13:12, NIV)

6. Jeff pointed out how Luke used both Saul's Jewish name (Saul) and his Greek name (Paul) to demonstrate Paul's shift to being a missionary to the Gentiles. How are he and his missions' partner most often named afterward (Acts 13:43, 13:46, 14:1, 14:23). What do you make of this?
7. Looking at where God might be asking you to be bold, consider familiar contexts and people, along with the three elements Jeff mentioned: the Holy Spirit, Passion, Faith. What step could you take to be bold for the kingdom in the coming weeks?

Wrapping Up:

Pray as a group for passion and faith to combine with the Holy Spirit in your lives for the Gospel.

"But if I say I'll never mention the LORD or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it!" (Jeremiah 20:9 NLT)