

SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **September 15, 2013 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "Evidences of God." Please read the sermon passage (Acts 14:8-20) together out loud.

Small Group Questions (Acts 14:8-20)

1. Getting a conversation about God going with unbelievers who do not know or care about the Bible can be difficult. Paul teaches us to start with their critical needs, such as the need for physical healing. What "critical needs" provide good starting points for conversations about God? Give examples of how you have recently taken your friends' critical **needs**, and steered the conversation to God.
2. We should understand the belief system of our friends, so we have a starting point in conversation. Paul's friends obviously believe in the supernatural, and also the idea of God coming down in human form (Acts 14:11-13). How do your friends' **beliefs** provide a great starting point for your conversations about God?
3. Paul uses the beauty of nature to give glory to God. He speaks of the "maker of heaven and earth and everything in them." Every person who has ever lived has lived in a world that belongs to God. As some "assume" that there is no God, are you bold enough to assume there the reality of God in your conversations? How can you use "nature" (or "general revelation") as means of giving glory to God?
4. Paul avoids religiously charged words (such as "repent"), and says to "turn from these worthless things to the living God." What religiously charged words have become meaningless and judgmental to your friends? Which words can or should be replaced when you are communicating with an unbeliever who has little or no Bible knowledge? Give examples of phrases that replace religiously charged words.
5. When the crowds rejected Paul, and persecuted him, he continued to preach the Gospel. He showed great perseverance (vv. 19-20). In what ways have you persevered in proclaiming the Gospel to those who have opposed the Gospel message or persecuted you? How can we pray for you?