

Message Notes | To the Ends of the Earth

Part 5: Only Human

Acts 14:11-20

**#1 God may draw attention to his _____
as a way to draw attention to his _____.**

- attention drawn - **Acts 14:8-10**
- slight identity confusion - **vs. 11-13**
- only human - **vs. 14-18**

#2 Refuse any _____ that is not directed toward God.

- what it looks like when people idolize you
- how to know if you are idolizing someone
- from worship to murder - **vs. 19-20**
- that which was superstition in Lystra...

**#3 God may bring attention to his messengers
in _____.**

- what Paul learned - **1 Corinthians 2:1-3**

#4 The power of the message comes from the _____.

Group Questions | To the Ends of the Earth

Part 5: Only Human

Acts 14:11-20

1. There were many miracles performed by Peter, Paul, and the other apostles as they brought the gospel message out into the world. Why did God perform miracles through them, and why is it important to remember the purpose of miracles?
2. Do you think it's right for us to pray to God for miracles today? Why or why not?
3. Read **Acts 14:8-13**. What do you think Paul and Barnabas were expecting to happen after they healed the man?
4. Do you think people idolize you? Why or why not?
5. We might not idolize Zeus and Hermes in world today. What are today's idols that people tend to hold onto, and do you think Christians are immune to this?
6. Read **Acts 14:14-18**. Analyze Paul's speech. What tactics did he use to redirect the crowd, and what can we learn from it today?
7. While God can bring attention to his messengers through miracles, he can also bring attention to them in unexpected, sometimes unpleasant ways. Share some ways that God can put someone in the spotlight.
8. The power of the message of Jesus comes from the message of Jesus. How does that change the way you view yourself as a messenger of God?

Message Notes | To the Ends of the Earth
Part 5: Only Human
Acts 14:11-20

**#1 God may draw attention to his messengers
as a way to draw attention to his message.**

- attention drawn - **Acts 14:8-10**
- slight identity confusion - **vs. 11-13**
- only human - **vs. 14-18**

#2 Refuse any worship that is not directed toward God.

- what it looks like when people idolize you
- how to know if you are idolizing someone
- from worship to murder - **vs. 19-20**
- that which was superstition in Lystra...

**#3 God may bring attention to his messengers
in unexpected ways.**

- what Paul learned - **1 Corinthians 2:1-3**

#4 The power of the message comes from the message.

Bible Reading for Today

Acts 14:11-20

¹¹ When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" ¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. ¹³ The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them.

¹⁴ But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: ¹⁵ "Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. ¹⁶ In the past, he let all nations go their own way. ¹⁷ Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy." ¹⁸ Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

¹⁹ Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. ²⁰ But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.