

Sunday, February 16, 2025

## ACTS – A Church Sent Prophets and Teachers

## **Read/Reflect**

Read Acts 13:1-12.

- 1. Place yourself at the church of Antioch, and as you read the first three verses, describe what you would be thinking or feeling if you were in church that day.
- 2. Why do you think Luke identifies the five people in the Antioch church in the way that he does? What does that say about the nature of the church?

## Explore

- 3. How does the church (then and now) discern leadership and appointments for "prophets and teachers"?
- 4. Have you ever encouraged someone to pursue preaching or church ministry? Why did you or would you? What kinds of things do you value in a preacher or teacher.
- 5. How important do you think it is to be commissioned by the church? What might that look like today? If you were commissioned and sent by the church, where would you go to preach, teach, or evangelize?
- 6. Luke says that Paul and Barnabas proclaimed the Word of God (vs.5), and that the proconsul was amazed at the "teaching about the Lord." What about the contents of that message would have been so offensive to Elymas (vs.8)? And what opposition today tries to turn people from the faith?
- 7. How important is it to you that the local church (and leadership) reflects the diversity of the general population?

## Pray

- Give praise to God that the message of salvation continues to be proclaimed, day after day, year after year, and century after century.
- Pray for the leadership of the church and for those commissioned to preach the Word of God throughout your church, your community, and the world.