GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Wilderness Essentials **November 21,2026**
Week 4: Tenacity **Jeff Griffin**
Acts 14:19-22

Kicking It Off:

Would you rather return to the same vacation spot for the rest of your life or visit a new location every time you travel?

Discussion:

1. Of the three essential skills we've discussed so far (attentiveness, boldness, and agility), which one comes most naturally to you? Which are you working on?

2. Read Acts 14:1-7. Where are Paul and Barnabas? What positives do they experience there? What negatives? Why do they leave?

3. Read verses 8-18. What does Paul do for the lame man? How does the crowd react?

Note what language they speak. What indication do we get that Paul and Barnabas did not understand what was going on at first (v.14)?

4. Was this the response they were expecting? [Remember, they are still new to taking the gospel to a non-Jewish population]. How does Paul counter this reaction (vv.15-17)?

5. Read verses 19-22. Who shows up at Lystra? How far have they come? For what purpose? Look back at verse 5 – how determined are they in their purpose?

6. How serious would Paul's injuries have been, given the description? And yet, what happens? Where do he and Barnabas travel after they go to Derbe? What is significant about this?

But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. (Acts 14:20, NIV)

7. Review the three truths about hardships that Jeff shared in his sermon ("Faithful Endurance is Our Strongest Witness," "Survival is a Team Sport," "This Too Shall Pass"). Which one do you need to lean into most right now?

8. Share a past occasion when God helped you be tenacious in the face of hardship.

Wrapping Up:

Like Paul, we face hardships in our walk with the Lord, and we witness cultural norms pulling people back from accepting the good news or righteous living. Pray for resolve to keep obeying Jesus in the face of our dogged enemy.

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him." James 1:12 (NIV)