

WORD

¹At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke so effectively that a great number of Jews and Gentiles believed.

²But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. ³So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to do miraculous signs and wonders. ACTS 14:1-3

WHAT

Paul and Barnabas boldly shared the gospel and many people embraced it. Even if some people tried to speak against them to those who just came to know about Jesus, they stayed and courageously defended their faith. Perhaps because God validated their preaching with signs and wonders. Are signs and wonders still available for us today? How can we move in God's power?

1 We receive God's power through the Holy Spirit.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ACTS 1:8

God promised us that we would receive power as we let the Holy Spirit move in and through us. It is the Holy Spirit that enables us to speak boldly about our faith and live victoriously (2 Peter 1:3). When was the last time you felt the power of the Holy Spirit at work in your life?

2 God uses our prayers to release His power on earth.

¹⁶... The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. JAMES 5:16,17

Prayer is a direct hotline God gave His children to boldly come before His throne. Describe your prayer life. Tell of some instances when God came through for you when you prayed for a situation.

3 Faith is instrumental in the demonstration of signs and wonders.

So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to do miraculous signs and wonders. ACTS 14:3

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. HEBREWS 11:6

Paul and Barnabas' faith was shown in their boldness to preach the gospel. Their faith also made a way for God to freely move in signs and wonders, validating their message and giving Him the glory. Share about a time when you experienced God move in signs and wonders when you shared the gospel.
