

September 25, 2016  
Acts 14:21-28

## **THE DISCIPLES OLYMPICS: STRENGTH TRAINING**

### **I. Introduction:**

The Blessing of a Small Group

Small Groups Provide: A Place for Love and Care

“by this, all men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” John 13:35

### **II. Growth and Nurture in Small Groups:**

<sup>21</sup> They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch.” Acts 14:21

#### **A. Remain True To The Faith (vs. 22)**

<sup>22</sup> **strengthening** the disciples and encouraging them to **remain true to the faith.**” Acts 14:22

#### **Small Groups Provide:**

- A place to learn more about Christ
- A place for exploring questions about the Bible and Faith
- A place for learning how to apply the Bible to life
- A place for growing on the path of discipleship
- A place for sharing testimonies of God’s activity in our lives
- A place for encouraging and strengthening one another

## **B. Persevere Through Trials**

**“We must** go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” Acts 14:22

## **III. Invitation To Strength Train**

**If you are not already a part of a small group, sign up today!**

**Points To Ponder**  
Week of September 25<sup>th</sup> to October 2nd  
The Disciples Olympics: Strength Training  
Acts 14:21-28

**Open It**

1. \*What kind of vacation most appeals to you (trips to other cities, backwoods hiking, visits to the beach, etc.)?
2. How busy is your daily schedule?
3. What do you do to relax?

**Explore It**

4. \*What did Paul and Barnabas do in Derbe? (14:21)
5. What was the result of the apostles' evangelism? (14:21)
6. \*Why did Paul and Barnabas retrace their steps to Antioch? (14:22)
7. What kind of warnings did the missionaries give the young converts? (14:22)
8. How did the apostles establish leadership in the young churches? (14:23)
9. \*What encouragement and help did the apostles give the new Christians? (14:22-23)
10. Where did the return journey to Antioch take the apostles? (14:24-26)
11. On their way to Antioch, where did the apostles preach? (14:25)

12. When they returned to Antioch, what did Paul and Barnabas do? (14:27)
13. Why was it important that Paul and Barnabas report on their activity to the church at Antioch? (14:26)
14. How long did the apostles remain in Antioch? (14:28)

### **Get It**

15. Why would you return to a church or community that had made you feel unwelcome before?
16. What does the apostles' ability to withstand rejection say about their faith and leadership?
17. What would your pastor do if faced with persecution?
18. \*How does your church disciple new Christians?
19. In your church, how does a person become a leader?
20. How should missionaries be accountable to the church?
21. How has your church been blessed by the work of missionaries?
22. \*How can you help younger Christians get established in the faith?

### **Apply It**

23. \*What younger Christian can you encourage this week? How?
24. What can you do this week to become a stronger Christian?