

The Spirit empowers our Witness

Acts 13:1-12

1. What service for God do you feel empowered to do? What service for God are you doing?

2. Read Acts 9:10-19. Think of some reasons why God chose to intervene in Saul's life?

3. Read Acts 13:1-3. What does it mean to be "set apart"? What do you think the work is?

4. How long is this since Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus? Share your thoughts about God's timing, and about His ability to plan.

5. Has God intervened in your life? Have you ever had the sense that God has some particular work for you to do? Discuss.

6. Who sent out Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13:1-4)? Is there any confusion or contradiction here?

7. Read Acts 13:4-8. Is Elymas the first person to oppose the spread of the gospel? List some of the others and how they expressed their opposition.

8. Reflect on Paul's "punishment" of Elymas. Does this remind you of anyone else who opposed the gospel?

9. Paul, an apostle, deals directly with Elymas. Do you think it would ever be appropriate for us to deal with opposition to the gospel in this manner? Discuss.

10. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. Who is it that opposes the gospel and Christians? What do you do to "keep your armour on"? How regularly?

11. Read Acts 11 and Acts 8:26-31. Describe how the Spirit enabled the spread of the gospel. What role did Peter and Philip have?

12. Do you believe God could use you to spread the gospel message? Why or why not?

13. Pray for each other and for the spread of the gospel from St Hilary's.