

# A Message for Open Hearts

Acts 13:13-52

- 1. Describe how you felt after you last listened to a sermon or read the Bible. Did you understand it? Did you have questions? Did you resolve to change something you do?**
  
- 2. Read Acts 13:13-52. In your own words describe the setting and context for Paul's preaching (v.13-16).**
  
- 3. How does Paul address his hearers? What is the content of his introduction (v.16-22)?**
  
- 4. Paul starts his message with the history of the Jews, as written in their Law and Prophets, and read every Sabbath in the synagogue. What does he move on to (v.23-25)?**
  
- 5. What key elements of Christian belief are included here (v.26-31)?**

**6. How does Paul encourage the Jews to believe (v.32-37)?**

**7. Is this the essence of the gospel? Is the gospel more than this (v.38-39)? Discuss.**

**8. Do you think this message as given by Paul is appropriate to use with our neighbours in Boroondara? Why or why not? What would you change?**

**9. How did the people respond? Do you often speak with the preacher after the sermon eager to hear more (v.42-43)? Why or why not?**

**10. How did the various groups respond the following week (v.44-45)? How many times have you spoken with the preacher after a sermon eager to correct her/him?**

**11. How often is your heart open to hear from God when a sermon is preached or when you read the Bible?**

**12. What were the apostle's state of mind as they left? Can you explain why?**

**13. Pray for each other.**