



## Becoming a Missional Church Acts 13 and 14

Community Reflection is part three of Vineyard Boise’s “Weekly Discipleship Track.” Community Reflection is intended to point you towards the unique interaction that happens in the face to face setting of small group life. You’ve processed the truth on your own in the weekly devotions and have heard the truth presented in Sunday’s teaching. Now you have the opportunity to interact with other believers about the implications and applications of that truth. “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another,” says the proverb. That’s exactly what takes place in the small group setting. Perspectives are clarified, truths explored, convictions sharpened (or softened, as the case may be), life is built. There are three segments in each Community Reflection: **Prepare**, **Process**, and **Participate**.



### PREPARE

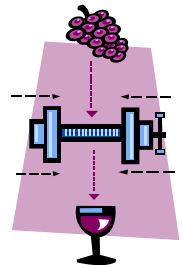
(For leaders/co-leaders prior to group meeting)

1. Work through “This Week’s Walk.” Do the devotions, noting any key insights you want to share with your group or questions you would like to ask.
2. Feeling a bit adventurous? Has it been awhile since you’ve read all the way through the book of Acts? To really get a feel for the “missional church,” try getting a translation or paraphrase new to you and read through all 28 chapters of Acts – in one sitting if possible (that would take about 1 hour and 40 minutes). Write down observations, insights and applications as you read so you can share with your group later.
3. Pray over your upcoming meeting daily – and for each person in your group.

### PROCESS

(For leaders/co-leaders during group meeting )

1. Ask your group how they did with their devotions this past week. What stood out as they worked through them? What questions or issues were raised?
2. Choose one of the following discussion options:



#### Track One *Your own Antioch debriefing*

“They gathered the church and reported all that God had done through them...” Have your own “Antioch” debriefing meeting – ask your group members to share any overseas mission experiences they have had – and share your own if you’ve had some. Then ask your group to share the most recent local “missions” experiences they have had. Depending on the people in your group and your experiences, this might take up all your group time (gladly welcome that!). Affirm each testimony and pray for each one that shares. Then pray for the group as the group anticipates new mission fields locally and abroad.

Weekly Discipleship Track



1. Life reflection – need for change, hunger for God
2. Presentation of truth – teaching and studying
3. Processing the truth – reflection and debrief in community
4. Life change – response to truth, new habits and actions

# Community Reflection

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## Track Two *Sent on their way by the Spirit*

*Read Acts 13:1-12* This would be a good track to combine with track one if the group doesn't have much to share in the way of past mission experiences locally or abroad. This track will provide an opportunity for your group to be called out to "new frontiers" of the mission field.

### Discussion starter:

- When was the last time you received very clear direction from the Lord? How did you know it was his voice calling you?
- How ready are you to receive fresh direction now? How and where can you try finding it?

## Track Three *Open door to the outsiders*

*Read Acts 13:13-52 and Romans 1:14-17* This track would expose your group to the methods and means, the message and the challenges of any mission the Lord will call us to embark upon.

### Discussion starter:

- Paul and company have now travelled 500 miles, with plenty of hazardous sailing and overland journeying. How far out of your comfort zone – geographically and financially – are you willing to go in pursuing God's mission in the world? How far are you being called to go right now?
- How can we best reach "religious insiders" with the good news of Jesus? How about "pagan outsiders"? Whom do you think presents the greatest challenge? Why? Whom do you currently know from either category? How can you connect with them?



## **PARTICIPATE** (As a group during or after your meeting)

"After they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off..." Take time to do this – "hotseat" members and have all the group members lay hands on them and pray for them as a group – and do it for the following:

- Anyone in the group that is going out as part of a mission team (nationally or internationally).
- Anyone who has a heart for missions and is seeking direction for future mission opportunities.
- Everyone in the group – as local missionaries! Pray God's commissioning on each member as an "ambassador" of Jesus in their daily "trek" right here at home.