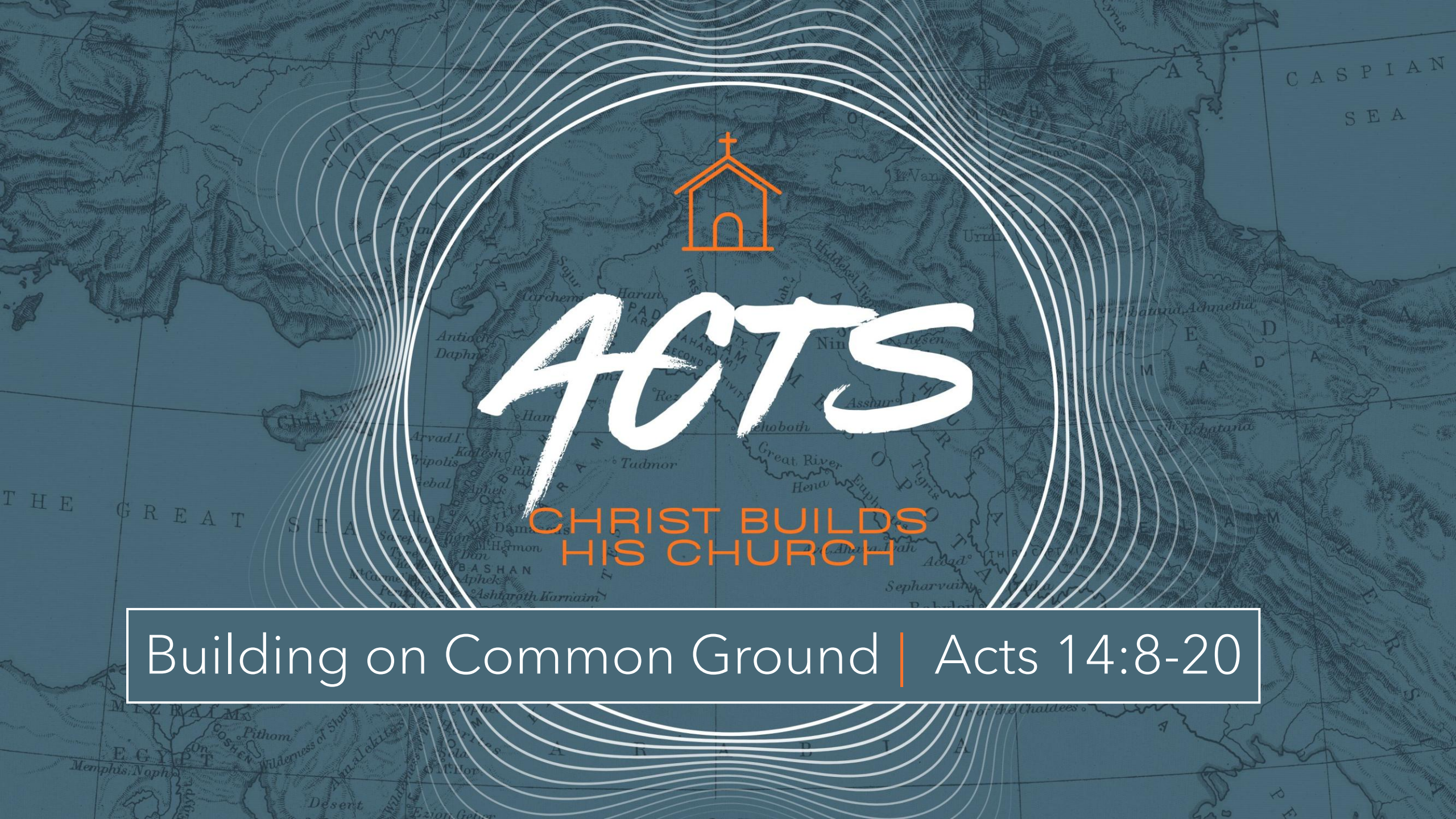

ACTS
CHRIST BUILDS
HIS CHURCH
Building on Common Ground | Acts 14:8-20

MAIN POINT

Where knowledge of the living God is lacking, common ground must be established.



Establishing Common Ground

1. Look for a common point of **entry** (8-10)

Establishing Common Ground



Confront mankind's common **error** (11-15)

Establishing Common Ground

3. Provide common grace **explanations** (15-18)

Establishing Common Ground



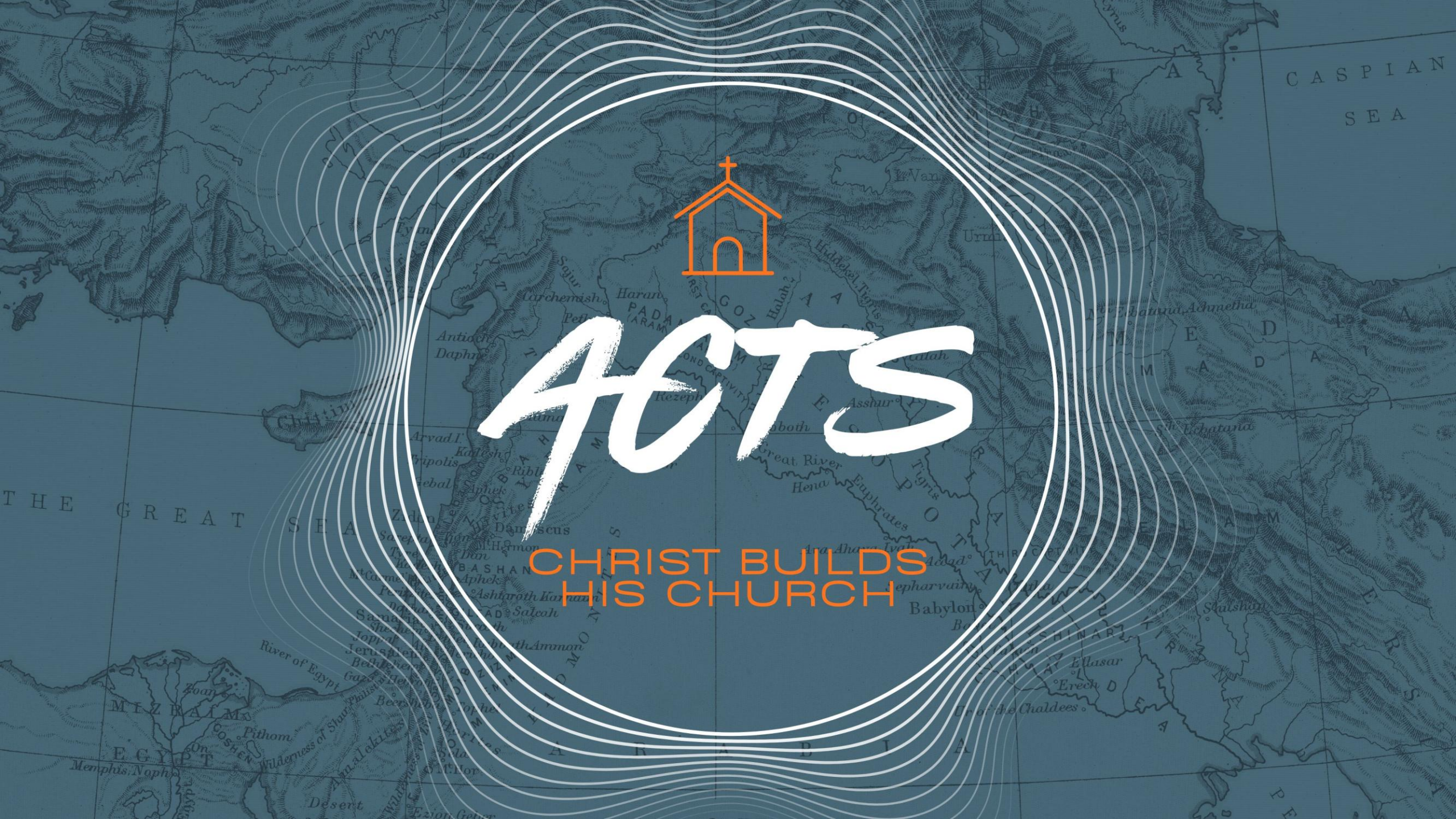
Expect to make some common **enemies** (19-20)

Expressing Common Union

If you identify with the ***unbelievers***,
turn from an **empty** life to a living God!

Expressing Common Union

If you identify with the ***disciples***,
fix your **eternal** hope on our living Savior!


ACTS
CHRIST BUILDS
HIS CHURCH

EPHESIANS

"NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO FAR MORE ABUNDANTLY THAN ALL THAT WE ASK OR THINK, ACCORDING TO THE POWER AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS, FOREVER AND EVER."

3:20-21

"Building on Common Ground"
Acts 14:8-20 – *Pastor Scott Gnuse*

Main point: Where knowledge of the living God is lacking, common ground must be established.

Establishing Common Ground

1. Look for a common point of _____ (8-10)

2. Confront mankind's common _____ (11-15)

3. Provide common grace _____ (15-18)

4. Expect to make some common _____ (19-20)

Expression Common Union

If you identify with the unbelievers, turn from your _____ life to a living God!

If you identify with the disciples, fix your _____ hope on our living Savior!

Growing Deeper

1. What does it practically look like to create a common point of entry with someone who doesn't know the Bible? How can you genuinely care for someone in a manner that sees them as more than just a project? How have you personally attempted this? How was it received?
2. How is idolatry the common error of all mankind? What does idolatry look like for people today? What is Paul's solution to this error?
3. Read Romans 1:18-25. How do Paul's words in Romans align with the message he shares with the crowd in Lystra? How does he point people back to the living God? What features of general (natural) revelation most clearly point you back to God?
4. Why do you think Paul was stoned but not Barnabas? What does this tell us about those who are the most outspoken about the gospel? Is there any comfort you should gain from this truth?

Heart Preparation: Prepare your heart for worship on 11/08 by reading and meditating on Acts 14:21-28.

Prayer Prompt: Heavenly Father, thank you for revealing your eternal power and divine nature to this world. Help me carefully point others to your common grace so that they may feel their spiritual need and turn to you, the living God. May they come to their senses and realize that the vanity of life can only be satisfied by the saving work of Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.

Reaching Farther

Family: As a family, talk about the significance of general revelation (creation) and how it points back to a living God. You can do this by watching a nature documentary together or taking a walk around your neighborhood. Share with one another the things that leave you amazed or convinced that a good Creator must exist.

Community: Consider a "point of entry" with the local community where you live. How can you intentionally engage with community members in your town who may not know Christ? How might this give you a platform for sharing Christ while also showing genuine care for the needs of those around you?