
ACTS
CHRIST BUILDS
HIS CHURCH
Cultivating Disciples | Acts 14:21-28

MAIN POINT

Maturity in Christ is the primary goal of Christian discipleship.




1.
By sacrificially giving yourself to others (21)
…It takes time


Paul's Mission in Cyprus, Galatia, and Pamphylia
Paul's route from Antioch (Syria) to Salamis
Paul's route from Salamis to Paphos
Paul's route from Paphos to Perga
Paul's route from Perga to Pisidian Antioch via the western route
Paul's route from Pisidian Antioch to Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe
Paul's route from Derbe to Pisidian Antioch
Paul's route from Pisidian Antioch to Perga via the central route
Paul's route from Perga to Antioch (Syria)
GALATIA
LYCAONIA
PISIDIA
PAMPHYLIA
CYPRUS
Pisidian Antioch
Iconium
Lystra
Derbe
Perga
Attalia
Antioch
Salamis
Paphos
0
80 mi
0
80 km
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By strategically caring for the soul (22-23)

…Encourage their faith



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…Provide them perspective



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….Encourage their faith

….Provide them perspective

….Give them shepherds



By strategically caring for the soul (22-23)

…Encourage their faith

…Provide them perspective

…Give them shepherds

…Entrust them to God

3. By constantly reminding ourselves this is God's work (24-28)

…God gives the grace

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…God gives the grace

…God builds the church

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…God gives the grace

…God builds the church

…God inspires the saints



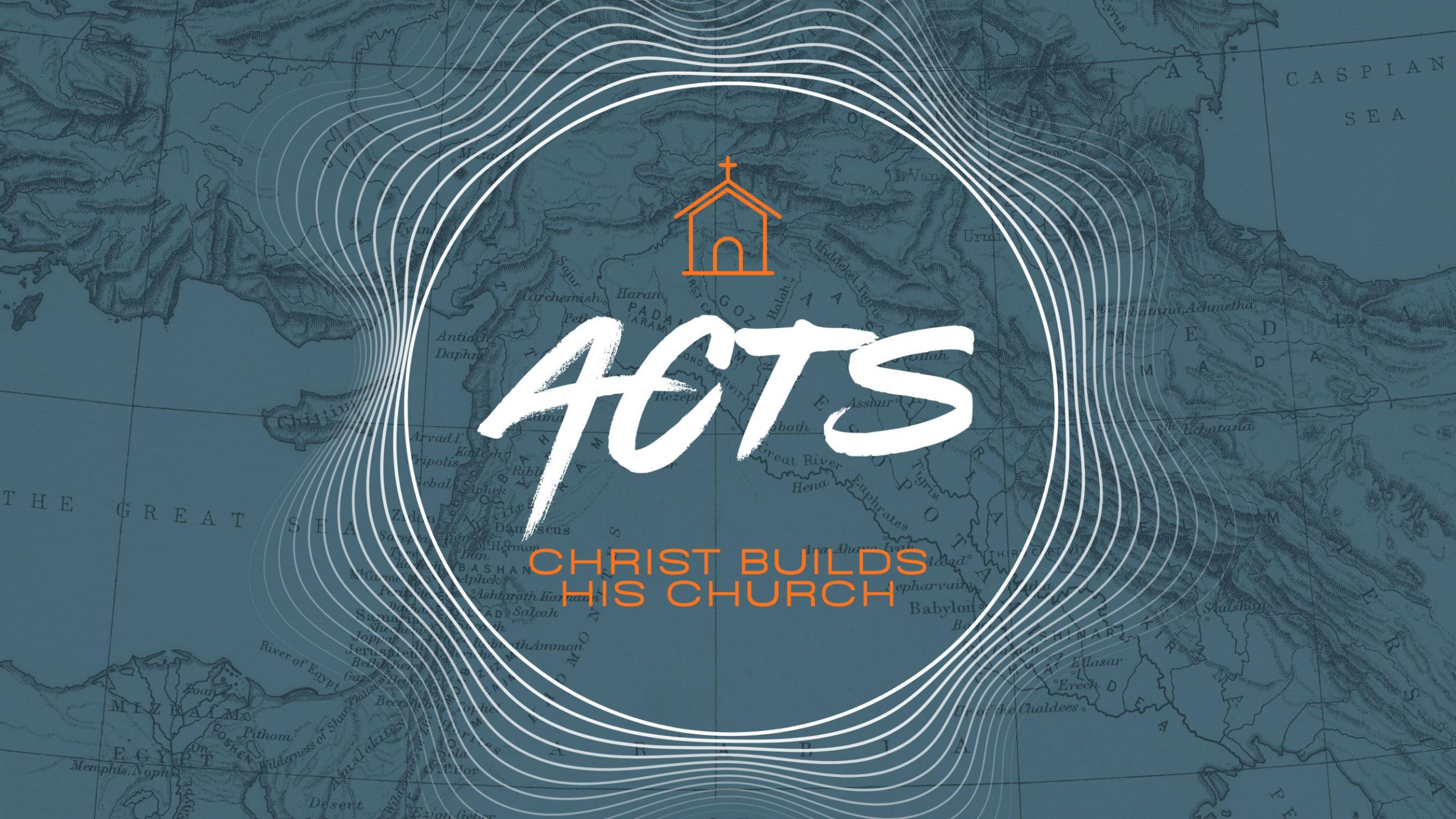
By constantly reminding ourselves this is God's work (24-28)

…God gives the grace

…God builds the church

…God inspires the saints

…God gets the glory


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

"Cultivating Disciples"

Acts 14:21-28 – *Pastor Scott Gnuse*

Main point: Maturity in Christ is the primary goal of Christian discipleship.

Growing Deeper:

1. How did today's passage shape your understanding of the church's mission? How does intentional discipleship fit into Christ's plan to build his church?
2. Today's sermon provided several examples of how maturity is cultivated in Christian discipleship. Which ones stood out to you most? Why?
3. What role does tribulation and hardship play in Christian discipleship? Why is it necessary to warn disciples about the difficulties of the Christian life? What encouragement can be found in these challenges?
4. How are you currently placing yourself in a position where you can receive the most benefits of Christian discipleship? Likewise, how are you intentionally investing yourself in the discipleship of others? What changes, if any, do you need to make to allow for either of these?

Heart Preparation: Prepare your heart for worship on 11/15 by reading and meditating on Acts 15:1-35.

Prayer Prompt: Gracious Father, thank you for the intentional care that you graciously give to your church. Help me contribute faithfully to the work of building up your church through the thoughtful care of souls. As I do, may I fully entrust myself to the loving care of the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reaching Farther:

Family: As a family, find a plant or tree that can be used as an object lesson. Explain how that plant is a fitting picture of discipleship. It begins as a seed, which is very similar to the gospel (Acts 14:21). The gospel produces young believers who need much care and attention in the same way that a plant does. Ask your kids what plants need to grow. Why is this especially important for gardens that hope to produce fruits or vegetables? Then help them think of ways that Christians need intentional care so that they can grow and produce spiritual fruit as they should. End by praying and thanking God for his care of our church.

Community: Paul reminds us that we must enter the kingdom of God through many tribulations. Pray this week for those who are hostile against your faith and ask God to change their hearts through the power of the gospel.