

Praying for the Persecuted

Acts 14

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Big Idea: The life of a true disciple will include hardship and even suffering, but the Holy Spirit and a heavenly vision will provide strength to persevere.

Acts 14 NIV

8 In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. 9 He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed 10 and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk.

19 Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. 20 But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

Hardship is part of the life of a true disciple.

James 1:2-4

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Matthew 24:4-14

Hardship is a laboratory for the Holy Spirit to do incredible things.

Hardship is bearable when there is a heavenly vision.

2 Cor. 12:2-4

Live for Heaven!