Crowds, Mobs, and Congregations

**Acts 14**

The message we share with others is good news to some and condemnation to others (2 Cor 2:16). What is the great result in Acts 14:1b? What also happens (v.2) when the good news is seen as bad?

What is God’s affirmation in Acts 14:3? How have you experienced God’s affirmation in the middle of human confrontation?

Why did Paul and Barnabas flee Iconium (14:6)? Why is that not a lack of courage? How does this help explain John 2:23-25?

Judah’s betrayal in the Gospels means Jesus and the Twelve were hiding. How is hiding a picture of wisdom alongside faith?

Why were Paul & Barnabas so quick and intense about not accepting the crowd’s praise (vv. 13-15)? The crowd was being spiritual; shouldn’t they build on that? Or how did they?

Why is it important to get the message of the Gospel out accurately? Name some subtle-but-wrong ways the Gospel is commonly used today in our culture. Why do people not only get it wrong but want to get it wrong?

What is the worshipping Crowd-turned-Mob’s spiritual state?

How tough, determined, and Spirit-directed were Paul & Barnabas to go back to those same cities (where they had been abused) and get the Churches organized? What is the message for us working now in a hostile culture?