

For Sunday 11th October 2026

Passage: Acts 14:1-7



St Peter's Kids Resources

Welcome to the resources for St Peter's Kids.

Each Sunday, Seekers and Diggers will normally explore the same Bible passage or theme as the rest of the church, in ways that are right for their different ages.

Our hope is to help the children:

- engage seriously with the Bible;
- grasp one clear central truth;
- understand why it matters;
- respond appropriately to God;
- enjoy being together and build good relationships.

How to use these resources

These are resources, not a script. Please use your knowledge of the children and your own strengths as a leader, and feel free to adapt what is here. You certainly do not need to use everything suggested.

A simple, engaging conversation about the Bible can be far more valuable than an elaborate activity. The aim is always to help the children understand, remember and respond to God's word.

Seekers and Diggers

- Seekers – Reception to Year 2: keep things short, concrete and interactive, using repetition, movement, visual material and questions they can genuinely answer.
- Diggers – Years 3 to 6: give children real opportunities to read the Bible, notice things in the text, think, question, discuss and respond. Aim for material that stretches them without feeling childish.

What about craft?

Craft can be a great way to reinforce the Bible teaching or help children respond, but it is entirely optional. If you enjoy using craft and it genuinely helps the session, please do. If it does not, there is absolutely no need to include it.

Summary

- Paul and Barnabas preach about Jesus in Iconium.
- Many people believe, but others oppose them.
- Paul and Barnabas continue speaking boldly about the Lord.
- God confirms that their message is a message of grace.
- When the opposition becomes dangerous, they move on and continue preaching elsewhere.
- Key verse: “speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace” (14:3).
- Aim: To help the children see that the good news about Jesus is a message of grace, and that it is worth speaking about even when people respond differently.
- Keep returning to: **Jesus is good news worth sharing.**

Things to notice in the passage

- Paul and Barnabas speak in the synagogue and many Jews and Greeks believe.
- Other people reject the message and stir up opposition.
- Verse 3 is important: Paul and Barnabas stay for some time and speak boldly for the Lord.
- Luke calls what they are preaching “the word of his grace”.
- The city becomes divided.
- Eventually there is a plan to attack them, so they leave.
- Leaving does not mean they give up. Verse 7 says they continue preaching the gospel elsewhere.

The passage is realistic. The gospel produces different responses. Some believe; others resist it.

But the emphasis is not simply on Paul and Barnabas being brave. What makes their courage worthwhile is the message they are speaking: the good news of God’s grace.

Possible approach for Seekers

Keep the main truth simple: **Jesus is good news worth sharing.**

You could begin by talking about good news.

Ask:

- What sort of news makes you excited?
- If something really good happened, who would you want to tell?
- Have you ever had good news that you could not wait to share?

Then explain that Paul and Barnabas had very good news to tell people: the good news about Jesus.

Some people listened and believed. Some people did not like what they heard. But Paul and Barnabas kept speaking about Jesus.

You could repeat together: **Jesus is good news worth sharing.**

Help the children see that we cannot make people believe in Jesus. Our job is not to force people to agree with us. But Christians do not need to be ashamed of Jesus. We can speak about him kindly and clearly.

A good closing question: **What is one good thing about Jesus that you would be glad to tell somebody?**

Possible approach for Diggers

Read Acts 14:1-7 together and ask the children to look for the different responses.

You could make two headings:

1. PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE
2. PEOPLE WHO OPPOSE

Ask: What happens when Paul and Barnabas speak?

- Does everybody respond in the same way?
- What do Paul and Barnabas do when people oppose them?
- What does verse 3 call their message?
- Why do you think Luke describes it as a message of grace?
- What happens when staying becomes too dangerous?
- Do they stop preaching altogether?

Help them notice that opposition does not mean the gospel has failed.

Some believe. Some reject it. Paul and Barnabas cannot control the response. But they can be faithful in speaking.

A useful contrast might be:

- Our responsibility: speak faithfully about Jesus.
- God's work: change hearts.

You could also ask:

- What might make a Christian nervous about talking about Jesus?
- What is the difference between speaking boldly and speaking rudely?
- Why does remembering that the gospel is a message of grace matter?

Connecting it with St Peter's

There are lots of ways children can help others hear about Jesus:

- inviting someone to church;
- explaining what SPK is like;
- telling a friend what they learned;
- answering a question honestly;
- saying that they are Christians;
- talking about why Jesus matters to them.

The aim is not to create pressure.

We do not have to persuade everybody.

But we can pray for courage to speak about Jesus when God gives us an opportunity.

Possible activities

- **Good news:** ask children to think of examples of good news and how they might share it.
- **Different responses:** give simple situations and ask whether people might respond positively, negatively or with questions.
- **Bold or rude?** Sort examples into gracious courage and unhelpful behaviour.
- **Message card:** write or draw one thing that makes Jesus good news.
- **Prayer names:** think of one person each child could pray for who does not yet know Jesus.

A note for leaders

Avoid reducing the session to: **“Paul was brave, so you should be brave.”**

The centre of the passage is the gospel itself. Paul and Barnabas are speaking the word of God’s grace.

Christian courage grows from confidence in the message, not confidence in ourselves. We do not need everybody to approve of us. Nor do we need to win every argument.

We want children to see that Jesus is genuinely good news, and therefore worth speaking about with humility, kindness and courage.

Prayer

- Thank God for the good news of Jesus.
- Thank him that salvation is by grace.
- Ask God to help us not be ashamed of Jesus.
- Pray for courage and kindness when we talk about him.
- Pray for friends and family members who do not yet know Jesus.