

# Acts 12–15 Study Guide for Whiskey & Worship

## **Acts 12: God’s Sovereignty — Prayer, Deliverance, and Trust**

### **Focus Areas:**

- **James is martyred** and Peter is imprisoned by Herod (Acts 12:1–5).
- **The church prays**, and God sends an angel to free Peter (Acts 12:6–11).
- **God humbles Herod**, showing that no earthly power stands above Him (Acts 12:20–23).
- **God’s word continues to spread**, despite persecution (Acts 12:24).

### **Men’s Group Reflection:**

- How do you respond when God allows suffering for some but delivers others?
- Is prayer your first response in crisis or a last resort?
- Where do you need to trust God’s sovereignty even when outcomes don’t make sense?
- How can you strengthen your prayer life personally and as a group?

## **Acts 13: Called and Sent — Obedience to the Spirit**

### **Focus Areas:**

- **The Holy Spirit sets apart Barnabas and Saul** for missionary work (Acts 13:1–3).
- **Opposition from Elymas**, and Saul (Paul) boldly confronts falsehood (Acts 13:6–12).
- **Paul’s message in Pisidian Antioch**, proclaiming Jesus as the fulfillment of God’s promises (Acts 13:16–41).
- **Mixed responses**—some believe, others oppose, yet the mission continues (Acts 13:42–52).

### **Men’s Group Reflection:**

- How do you discern when the Holy Spirit is calling you to step out in faith?
- Are you grounded in the truth of Scripture enough to explain your faith clearly?
- How do you handle rejection while remaining faithful to God’s calling?

## **Acts 14: Perseverance — Faithfulness Through Opposition**

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### **Focus Areas:**

- **Signs and division** in Iconium (Acts 14:1–7).
- **A lame man healed** in Lystra; Paul and Barnabas are mistakenly worshiped as gods (Acts 14:8–18).
- **Paul is stoned and left for dead**, yet continues the mission (Acts 14:19–23).
- **Strengthening the churches**, teaching that hardship is part of following Christ (Acts 14:21–23).

### **Men’s Group Reflection:**

- How do you stay humble when praised and faithful when criticized?
- What does perseverance look like in your walk with Christ right now?
- How do suffering and trials shape your faith rather than weaken it?

# Acts 15: Unity in Truth — Grace, Freedom, and Wise Leadership

## Focus Areas:

- **The Jerusalem Council** addresses whether Gentile believers must follow the Law of Moses (Acts 15:1–11).
- **Peter affirms salvation by grace**, not by works (Acts 15:7–11).
- **James provides wise leadership**, seeking unity without compromising truth (Acts 15:13–21).
- **The church communicates clearly**, bringing encouragement and clarity to believers (Acts 15:22–35).
- **Paul and Barnabas part ways** over a disagreement, yet God continues His work (Acts 15:36–41).

## Men's Group Reflection:

- What extra burdens to faith that God never required are you bearing?
- Are you living in the freedom of grace, or still trying to earn God's approval?
- How do you handle disagreement with other believers—with humility and conviction?
- How can we apply the way the early church pursued unity and clarity to today?

## Practical Applications for Men's Lives

### Prayer Commitment:

Strengthen your prayer life—alone and with others—trusting God's power beyond what you can control.

### Calling Awareness:

Ask the Holy Spirit to clarify where God is sending you—at work, in your family, in your community.

### Perseverance Practice:

Identify one challenge you're facing and commit to remaining faithful through it rather than retreating.

### Grace-Centered Living:

Let go of performance-based faith. Rest in God's grace and extend that same grace to others.

### Unity Builder:

Choose to be a man who strengthens unity—speaking truth with humility, patience, and wisdom.