



# Oakwood

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## CHURCH

### February 28 Discussion Questions

#### “For the Jew First”

#### Acts 13:13-48

#### **Preview**

*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.” Romans 1:16*

#### **One Truth:**

- God **Chooses** who will be saved (v. 16-18, 48)

If you want to understand the **Choices** God makes you must begin to understand the **God** who makes those choices.

God chooses who will be saved and this choice perfectly considers the individual **Choices** of every person.

#### **Two Applications:**

1. Praise God for His **Mercy** to save any of us (v. 18, 48, 52)

The mystery of God’s sovereign choice is not that He condemns **Some** people but that He saves **Anyone!**

2. Don’t stress about **Results** (1 Cor. 3:6-7)

*“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.” 1 Corinthians 3:6-7*

### **Three Practices:**

- A. Begin with those **Closest** to you (v. 16, 46)
  
- B. Share with **as many as possible** (v. 47,49)
  
- C. Focus on those who **Respond** (v. 46, 51)

*And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'" Acts 13:46-47*

### **Connect**

1. To what degree do you believe your upbringing has conditioned who you are today? Give a few examples.
2. What is a providential circumstance God has used to condition your positive response to Him?

### **Pray & Read Acts 13:13-48**

### **Discuss**

3. Since God is perfectly just, what is the rightful result for all people? Is God bound by His character of love to save anyone?
4. Who ultimately decides who will be saved? How does this land on your mind and heart?
5. How do you understand the doctrine of election? Does this work against or alongside human free will? What other biblical examples or texts can you think of to support your thoughts?
6. Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8. What is the basis for who God saves? How do you feel about this?
7. Does the doctrine of election bring you anxiety or peace? Why is that? What do you struggle to comprehend and apply from this truth?
8. How does election influence your evangelistic effort? What is your role in the process? Why shouldn't you stress about results?

### **Apply**

9. How does this study lead you to worship Jesus?
10. Which of the three applicational practices from Pastor Darin's message most struck you (see above)? Why? In light of this, what is an evangelistic adjustment in practice or attitude you need to make?

11. To what degree do you stress over results in evangelism? Have you carried guilt because of this? How does the doctrine of election ease this stress?
12. George Mueller had a list of five people he consistently prayed for. Who would be the top people on your list? Do you pray enough for these people?

### ***Prayer***

Spend time thanking God for His sovereignty in salvation. Thank God that He chose you! Plead again with God to save that friend or family member who remains resistance to the Gospel.

### ***Church-Wide Prayer Focus, from the Prayer Team***

**Personal Prayer Focus:** Please pray for God to open the hearts of Jewish people to respond to the Gospel. Pray our church has opportunities to witness to them!