

August 6, 2023  
Acts 13:1-3  
PLUGGED IN!

### PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The church was filled with diversity, leaders were of varying races and from differing nations. There was also a beautiful commonality, a deep devotion to the Lord Jesus.

“An important feature in discerning God’s will for the future is to do His will in the present.” *John MacArthur*

Two men were set apart to go out on a mission, the church did not call these two, they did not volunteer, God called them. To do God’s work requires God’s call.

Scripture nowhere commands fasting but Jesus assumed His followers would do so, see [Matthew 6:17](#); [Luke 5:33-35](#).

**V 3**, the laying on of hands was symbolic of the congregation’s endorsing the work of Barnabas and Saul. They are commissioned and ready to go. Stay tuned!

[Acts 13-14](#) are the chapters that describe Paul’s first missionary journey of three in total. His second is [Acts 15:36-18:22](#), and the third [Acts 18:23-21:14](#).

#### **Application:**

In many versions of the Bible [Acts 13:2](#) reads, “And while they were ministering to the Lord . . .” The results of this worship/ministering session by the leaders of the church lead to wonderful results. So, how do we minister/worship the Lord Jesus? To minister to the Lord one is found: praying for His will to be done. Personal Bible study, time alone with God and gathering to hear the preaching/teaching God’s Word corporately, obey. Give yourself first to the Lord and then to other believers. Jesus first, Others second, Yourself last = JOY! When the Lord is given His rightful place of preeminence in one’s life and in the life of the church the results will be worship and accomplishing the will of God. Focus first on the Lord and He will direct your paths, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding, in all your ways know him, and he will make your paths straight.” [Proverbs 3:5-6](#). (CSB)

### THE LORD’S SUPPER