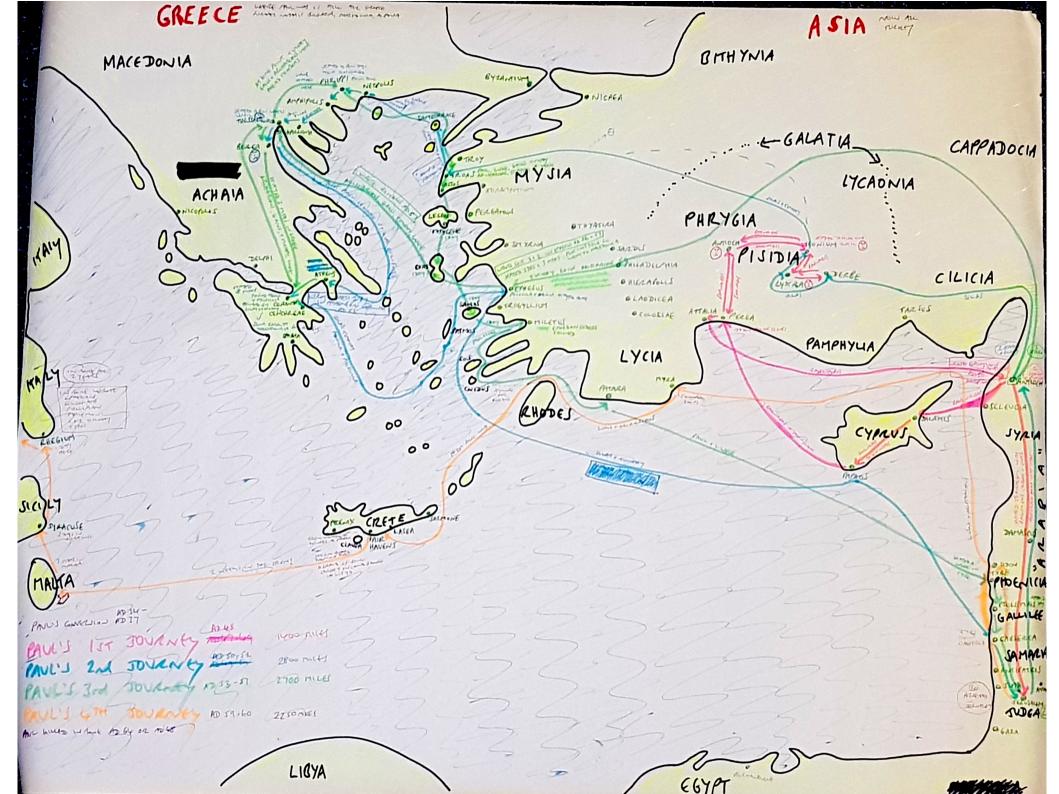
Acts – 4 points

- The importance of having a base where people can support and encourage you
- How do we respond to opposition
- Paul's love and heart for the new believers in each place
- For fun! Questions about the ship that was shipwrecked

The importance of having a base where people can support and encourage you





Acts 13: 1-3

Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon, Lucius, Manaen, and Paul.

One day as these men were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them."

So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.

Acts 14: 26-27

Finally, they returned by ship to Antioch of Syria, where their journey had begun. The believers there had entrusted them to the grace of God to do the work they had now completed.

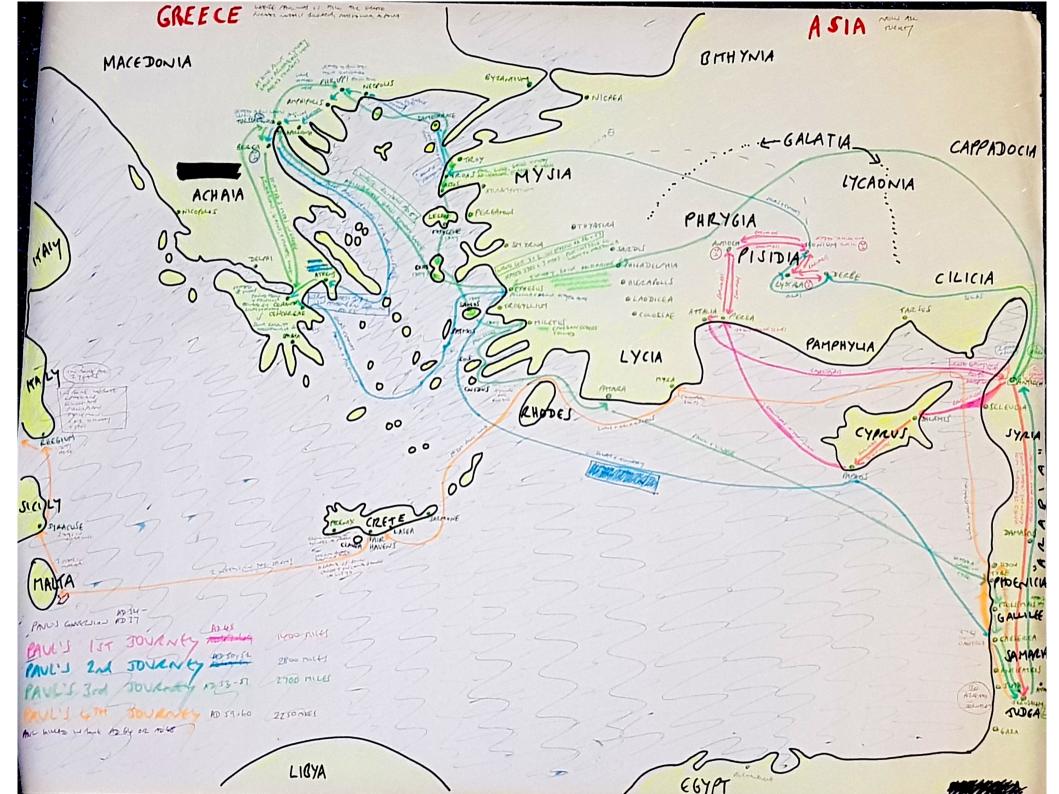
Upon arriving in Antioch, they called the church together and reported everything God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles, too.

Questions to ask ourselves:

Do we each have people around us who will support us in prayer and encourage us?

If someone in my small group (cell group) asks for prayer, do we follow up?

How do we respond to opposition



SILAS + Throng PHRYGIA GARMADES STAYS A WAS TITE 160 WIND MAIL P ANTIOCH CARMAN PIJIDIA DERBE ATTALIA @ PERGA TO WAT MANK LEAVES

In Antioch (of Pisidia):

They incited a mob against Paul and Barnabas and ran them out of town.

In Iconium:

The same thing happened in Iconium... a mob decided to attack and stone them. When the apostles learned of it, they fled to the towns of Lystra and Derbe.

In Lystra:

They stoned Paul and dragged him out of town, thinking he was dead. But as the believers gathered around him, he got up and went back into the town. The next day he left with Barnabas for Derbe.

(Acts 13 & 14)

SILAS + Throng PHRYGIA GARMADES STAYS A WAS TITE 160 WIND MAIL P ANTIOCH CARMAN PIJIDIA DERBE ATTALIA @ PERGA TO WAT MANK LEAVES

After preaching the Good News in Derbe and making many disciples, Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia, where they strengthened the believers.

They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God.

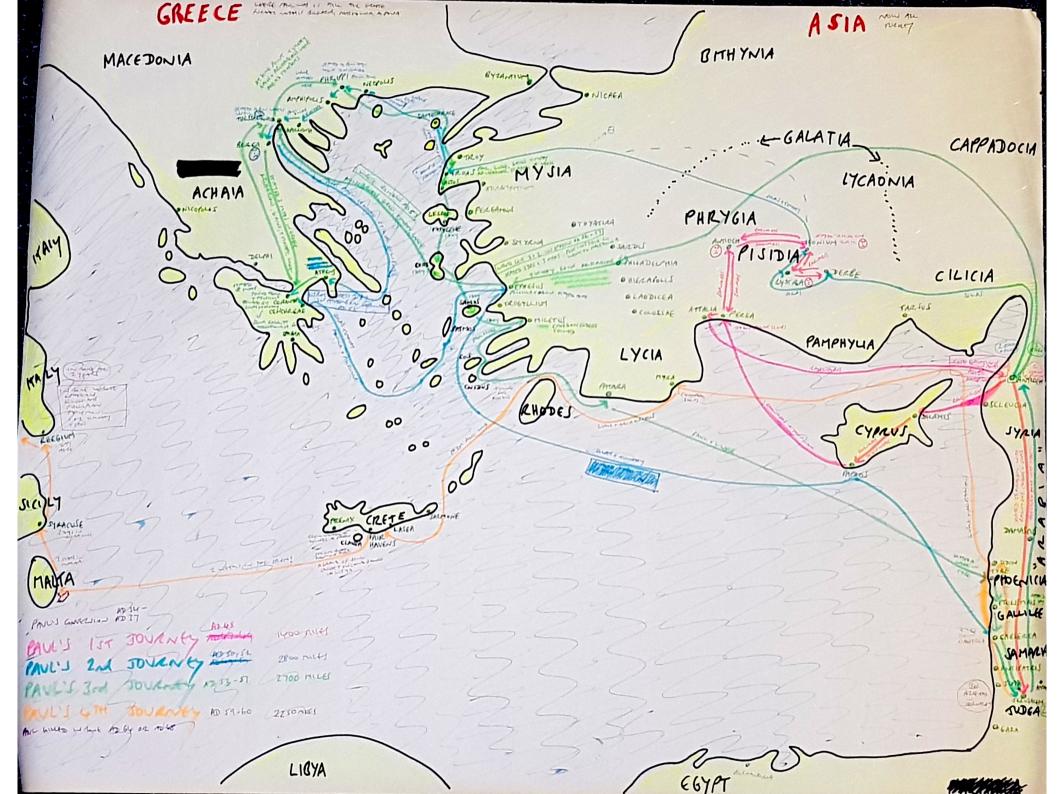
Paul and Barnabas also appointed elders in every church. With prayer and fasting, they turned the elders over to the care of the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

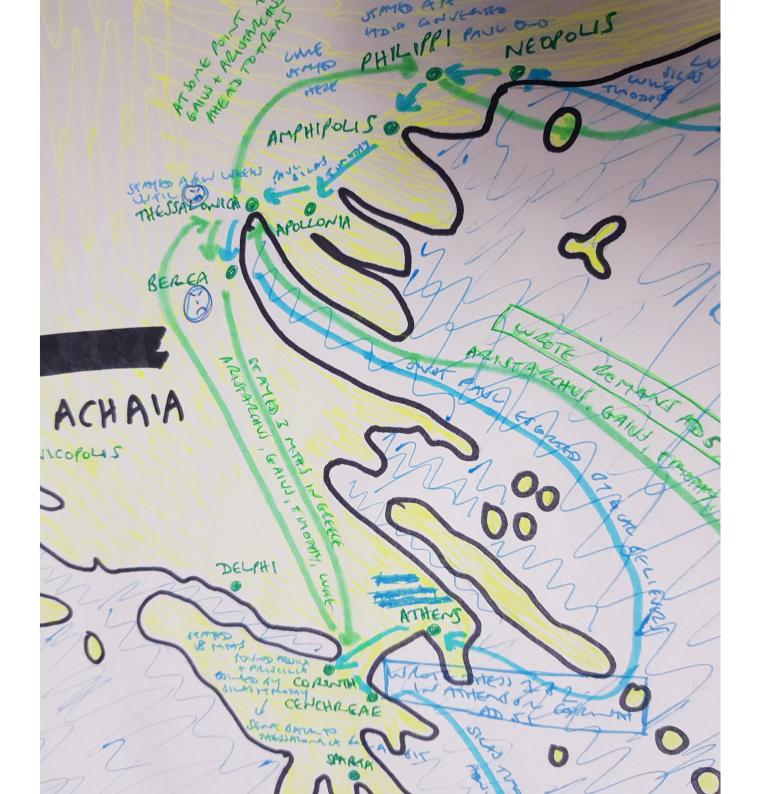
Questions to ask ourselves:

How do we respond when things get tough? Do we take it as 'a sign'? Or do we push into God for guidance and strength?

For Paul the good was mixed with the bad. Do we need to ask God for spiritual eyes to see the positive in a difficult situation?

Paul's love and heart for the believers in each place





Acts 17:14-15

The believers acted at once, sending Paul on to the coast, while Silas and Timothy remained behind.

Those escorting Paul went with him all the way to Athens; then they returned with instructions for Silas and Timothy to hurry and join him.

Dear brothers and sisters, we tried very hard to come back because of our intense longing to see you again. We wanted very much to come to you, and I, Paul, tried again and again, but Satan prevented us. Finally, when we could stand it no longer, we sent Timothy to visit you... to find out whether your faith was still strong.

But now Timothy has just returned, bringing us good news about your faith and love. So we have been greatly encouraged in the midst of our troubles and suffering, dear brothers and sisters, because you have remained strong in your faith. Questions to ask ourselves:

Does this help us when re-reading Paul's letters?

Can we hear the heart of what he is trying to say?

For fun!

Questions about the ship that was shipwrecked

Acts 27:6

The commanding officer found an Egyptian ship from Alexandria that was bound for Italy, and he put us on board.

