



Influencing people and pleasing God requires...

1. A will to serve with your spiritual gift. (Acts 14:1, 21-25)

Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 12:7

A spiritual gift is...

(examples in Acts 14: Prophecy, Teaching, Encouragement, Leadership)

“Each of you should use **whatever gift you have received to serve others**, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10

“⁶ **We have different gifts**, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, **then** prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, **then** serve; if it is teaching, **then** teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, **then** give encouragement; if it is giving, **then** give generously; if it is to lead, **do it** diligently; if it is to show mercy, **do it** cheerfully.” Romans 12:6–8

2. A will to serve boldly. (Acts 14:1-7; 4:19-20)

“...There they spoke so **effectively** that a great number of Jews and Greeks believed....So, Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord.” Acts 14:1,3

Effective boldness requires...

... help from the Lord (Acts 14:2)

... a longer-term perspective (Acts 14:2; 24-25)

... personal preparation (Acts 14:3; 19:8)

... wisdom (Acts 14:6; Matthew 10:23)

3. A will to serve with humility. (Acts 14:8-18)

Acts 4:19-20; 14:26-28

Humility is ...

1 Peter 1:5-6; James 4:6, 10

Our humility allows us...

... to see the needs of other people

... to realize God is the one changing lives

2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Romans 1:18-20; 12:1-2; Acts 17:22-31

4. A will to serve with persistence. (Acts 14:19-21)

“¹⁹Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They **stoned Paul** and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead...²¹...Then they returned to Lystra...” Acts 14:19, 21

5. A will to serve with care and commitment.

Acts 14:21-23; John 16:33; 2 Tim. 3:12

“²¹They preached the gospel in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then **they returned** to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, ²²**strengthening** the disciples and **encouraging** them to remain true to the faith.” Acts 14:21-22