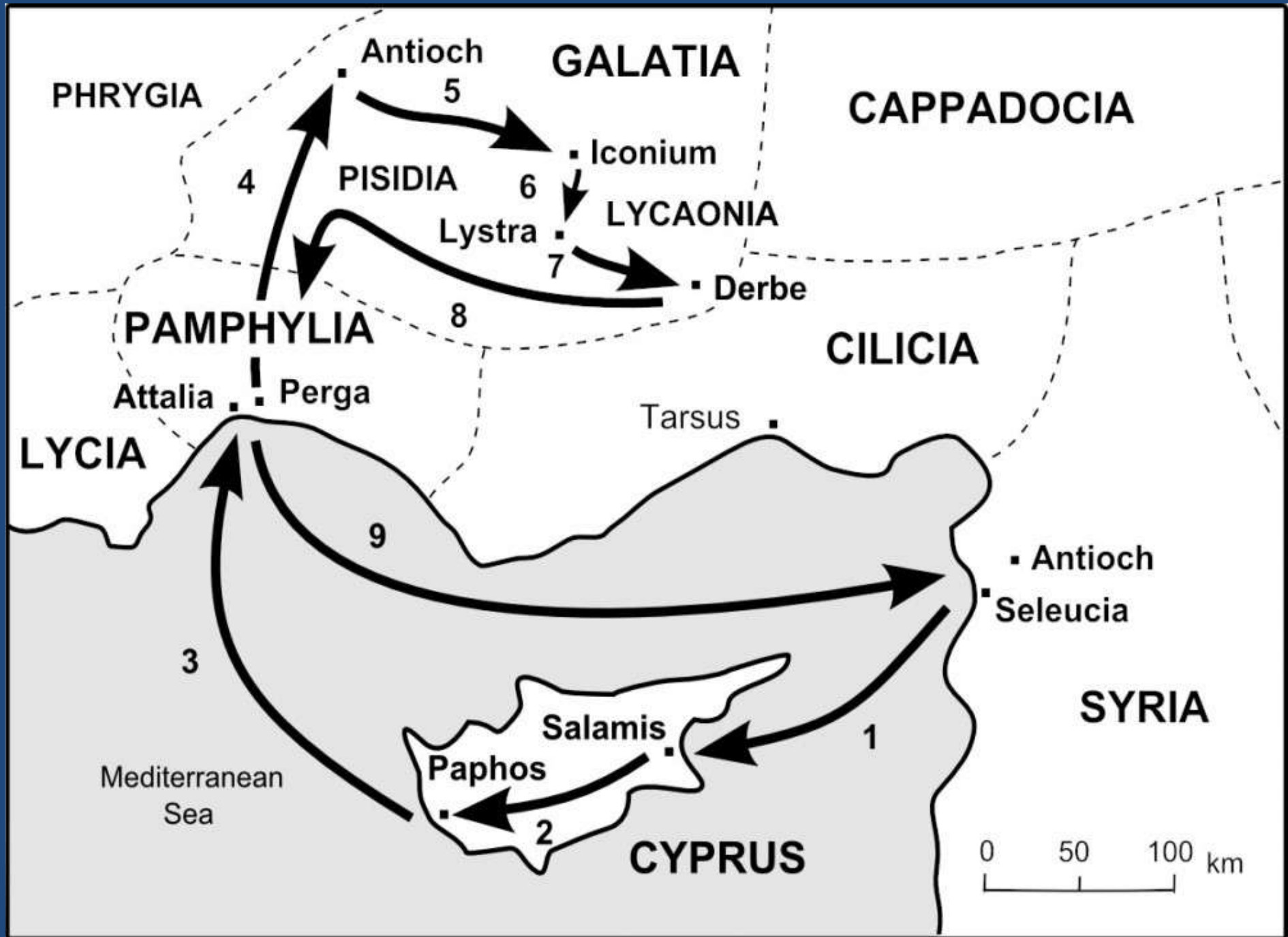






Expect evangelism to take time (v1-7)

Acts 14v2

But the Jews who refused to believe stirred up the other Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers.

Acts 14v3

So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord,

“Culturally, we’re such a long way from biblical Christianity that people don’t object to faith having engaged with it, they simply dismiss it. Jesus simply isn’t on the agenda; he isn’t even an option to be considered. People hardly ever think about why they don’t agree with your beliefs, and, even if they do, they put it in the ‘It’s fine for you but it’s not for me’ box. The culture is teaching people not to consider Christianity even when life goes wrong, or when there seems no point to anything, or when a loved one dies.”

Rico Tice

Expect evangelism to take time (v1-7)

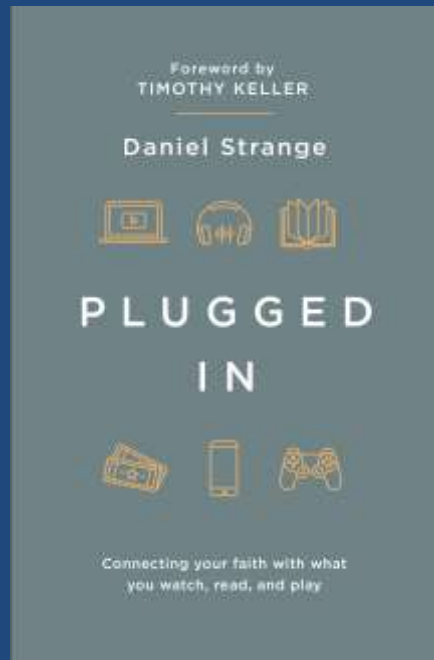
Look for contact points for the gospel (v8-18)

Acts 14v15-17

¹⁵ “Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. ¹⁶ In the past, he let all nations go their own way. ¹⁷ Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”

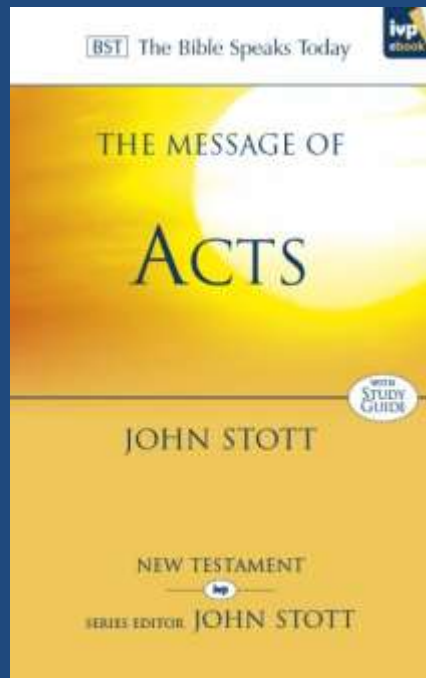
“In a culture where we often think that no one is interested in our message, we do in fact have evangelistic ways in, but we need to know where to look.”

Dan Strange



“Wherever we begin, we shall end up with Jesus Christ, who is himself the good news, and who alone fulfils all human aspirations.”

John Stott



Expect evangelism to take time (v1-7)

Look for contact points for the gospel (v8-18)

Be willing to suffer hardship for Christ (19-28)

Expect evangelism to take time (v1-7)

Look for contact points for the gospel (v8-18)

Be willing to suffer hardship for Christ (19-28)

Paul's example

2 Timothy 3v10-12

¹⁰ You, however, know all about... what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,

Expect evangelism to take time (v1-7)

Look for contact points for the gospel (v8-18)

Be willing to suffer hardship for Christ (19-28)

Paul's example

Paul's teaching

Acts 14v22

“We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,”

“I distinctly remember Rico’s conversion at school. I suspect that if you asked most of my contemporaries, they too would remember it, even although it was over 30 years ago. Why was it so memorable? For two reasons. Firstly, the merciless reaction shown towards Rico – the constant public and private attempts to humiliate him and get him to relinquish his newfound faith, which went on for many, many months.”

“Secondly, what really struck me was how Rico carried himself during such a difficult time for him. The easy option would have been to turn back or to keep quiet, but Rico stuck to his faith and kept on talking about his faith. Although I didn’t realise it at the time, Rico’s conversion and resolute faith sowed the first seed in my mind – who was it that gave Rico the strength to continue down such a difficult path? That was the first stage in my journey, which many years later, led me to Jesus.”

“When I finally accepted Jesus into my life, one of the first things I felt I needed to do was write to Rico, despite not having had contact with him for many years, to let him know how his journey and struggle at school had helped me on my way.”