



Making the True God Known

Discussion Guide
October 15, 2017
Acts 17:16-34

Questions for Study

** Before you begin discussing these questions, read through Acts 17:16-34 as a group.

- 1) Briefly describe the situation Paul finds himself in (especially verses 16-23), in the passage you just read. What stands out to you?
- 2) Are there any ways this situation overlaps with our present day culture in America? Explain.
- 3) In Athens, people had substituted many other things (idols) in the place of the true God. How does Paul react to this? (See especially verses 16-18.)
- 4) In what ways can we substitute other things in the place of God? What modern day "idols" are we surrounded with?
- 5) Look closely at verses 24-31. List the truths that Paul highlights as he introduces this group to the true God. Work together to observe as many as you can.
- 6) Look back at your responses to the previous question. Take 2-3 of these truths you identified and dig into them more deeply:
 - Why is this truth important to highlight as we help others understand the true God?
 - Are there ways this truth is being undermined or ignored today?
 - What might it look like to live in light of this truth today, in a clear and compelling way?
- 7) Read Acts 17:32-34 again. How do the people respond to Paul's message? What can we learn from this for our lives today?
- 8) What is one practical step of application you need to take because of what you've learned from Acts 17:16-34? Share this with your group, and pray together for these things before finishing.
- 9) Challenge: Memorize Acts 17:24-25: "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else."