



ACTS CHAPTER 17 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- Who introduced you and/or taught you about Jesus? How did they do this?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

Read the Story (Acts 17:1-34)

Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Acts 17:1-9

- Although 17:1 quickly references Paul's travels to Thessalonica, the journey was actually well over 100 miles. What does this indicate about Paul and his willingness to share Jesus with others?
 - Paul's commitment and devotion to sharing Jesus with others had nothing to do with his own comfort and convenience. He was willing to do whatever it took and was willing to go wherever God led him in order to share Jesus.
 - In what ways does your own commitment and devotion to sharing Jesus with others need to change so that you have a willingness to do whatever God is leading you to do and go wherever God is leading you to go?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.



- Why were the Jews so incredibly jealous of the Gentiles hearing about and receiving Jesus?
 - For the Jews, the Gentiles hearing about and receiving Jesus was definitely against the status quo of how they had grown up, what they knew to be true, and what they experienced. They were the chosen people of God. They didn't like the Gentiles and even this is an understatement. Life was being turned upside down by Jesus and His message and this wasn't comfortable for them.
 - In what ways is the message of Jesus uncomfortable and inconvenient for you? How do you respond?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Acts 17:10-21

- What are the differences between the Jews in Acts 17:11 and the Jews in Acts 17:1-9 and why is this important for us to understand today?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice Paul's response in Acts 17:17 after his spirit is provoked because of all the idols he saw in Athens? Why is his response important for us today?
 - Although Paul saw that Athens was full of idols and that they weren't followers and worshippers of Jesus, he didn't hammer them for this. Rather, he intentionally invested his time, sharing life with them, teaching them, and proclaiming truth to them. He didn't look down on them. Rather, he used his time with them as opportunities to share Jesus. This is important for us today because it's easy to look down on individuals that believe things that are completely opposed to who and what we believe in. Yet, we have these incredible opportunities that God daily gives us to share life and share Jesus regardless of where people are at and what they believe.



Acts 17:22-34

- In what ways does Paul's example of sharing Jesus give us a template for where we can start with people in sharing Jesus with them. See verses 22 and 23 specifically.
 - Paul starts off with where the people are and with what they are able to hear. He begins by affirming what good they are doing, although that good is in some ignorance. He meets them exactly where they are at and simply but profoundly shares the story of God with them.
- What do verses 32-34 indicate about our role in sharing Jesus versus how people are going to respond to the message of Jesus?
 - Our role is to meet people where they are at and share Jesus. We don't control how people will respond and there will be some that don't want anything to do with Jesus or His message. There will be some who accept Jesus and His message. There will be some who want to know and hear more but who aren't ready to make that commitment to Jesus quite yet.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.



- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Acts 18)



ACTS CHAPTER 17 (STUDENT)

Discussion Starter

- Who introduced you and/or taught you about Jesus? How did they do this?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

Read the Story (Acts 17:1-34)

Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Acts 17:1-9

- Although 17:1 quickly references Paul's travels to Thessalonica, the journey was actually well over 100 miles. What does this indicate about Paul and his willingness to share Jesus with others?
 - In what ways does your own commitment and devotion to sharing Jesus with others need to change so that you have a willingness to do whatever God is leading you to do and go wherever God is leading you to go?
- Why were the Jews so incredibly jealous of the Gentiles hearing about and receiving Jesus?



- In what ways is the message of Jesus uncomfortable and inconvenient for you? How do you respond?

Acts 17:10-21

- What are the differences between the Jews in Acts 17:11 and the Jews in Acts 17:1-9 and why is this important for us to understand today?
- Notice Paul's response in Acts 17:17 after his spirit is provoked because of all the idols he saw in Athens? Why is his response important for us today?

Acts 17:22-34

- In what ways does Paul's example of sharing Jesus give us a template for where we can start with people in sharing Jesus with them. See verses 22 and 23 specifically.
- What do verses 32-34 indicate about our role in sharing Jesus versus how people are going to respond to the message of Jesus?

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.



- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Acts 18)