



MASTERCLASS
ACTS 17:16-20
FEBRUARY 21, 2021

16 While Paul was waiting for them in Athens he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. 18 A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.

19 Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20 You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." (Acts 17:16-20)

3 MASTERCLASS LESSONS ON ADVANCING THE GOSPEL

1) _____ for _____

Notes:

2) _____ for advancing the gospel

Notes:

3) _____ when sharing the gospel

Notes:

Study Questions:

#1 Have you ever taken a class or lessons or in order to improve in something? What was it? (If you can't think of an answer, consider a time when you read a book or asked advice on how to do something.)

#2 What is the difference between duty and desire? How is this distinction relevant when it comes to answering the call to advance the gospel?

#3 Christianity, though deeply personal, is never private. What is the difference between the two and why is it so important?

#4 Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23. What does this passage teach? How did Paul embody this when he was in Athens?

#5 What are your thoughts about First Reformed purposefully moving into online ministry? How might we be able to use online ministry beyond broadcasting worship services to advance the gospel? (Please feel free to forward these to Pastor John or Skot – we'd love to hear them!)

#6 We have been talking about the gospel for the past month. In a sentence or two give your best definition of what it is.