

## Reflecting on Acts 17

### Discussion Questions | September 11, 2022

**Introduction:** In Acts 17, we find Paul presenting the gospel in both religious and secular contexts. From his example, we can learn several lessons on engaging our culture with the life-changing truth of the gospel.

1. **Read Acts 17:1-9.** Although it is only implied in this passage, we know that Paul helped establish a church in the city of Thessalonica as well as many other cities. Why is planting churches (in addition to one-on-one evangelism) so crucial to the spread of the gospel?

*Questions continue on the next page.*

## 2. **Read Acts 17:1-4, 10-12, and 1 Peter 3:15-17.**

- What is Paul's pattern of ministry in these cities?
  
- What are some ways for us to create points of contact within our communities?
  
- Discuss the necessity of being able to reason, explain, and give a defense of the Bible. What are some ways for us to ensure that we (as a church) are prepared for these tasks?



4. **Read Acts 17:24-31.** In these verses, Paul identifies the Athenians' "unknown god" as the one, true God of Scripture. Which of the following characteristics of God are you most thankful for? Which attribute of God do you think is most important for unbelievers to understand?

- God our Creator (vs. 24)
- God the Sustainer of Life (vs. 25)
- God our Sovereign (vs. 26)
- God the Satisfaction of our Souls (vs. 27)
- God our Father (vss. 28-29)
- God the Righteous Judge (vss. 30-31)

5. **Read Acts 17:1-8, 32-34.** Throughout the book of Acts, the followers of Jesus proclaim his sacrificial death and miraculous resurrection. This message is almost always met with mixed responses. Discuss why Jesus' death and resurrection are both pivotal to the gospel, yet polarizing among people.