

Acts – Expectancy and Overflow

Acts 17:1-15

Pastor Luke Crain

As we journey through Acts 17 - Paul and Silas are entering the towns of Thessaonica and Berea. They proclaim the Word of the Lord and many believe in Jesus. Berea is described as people who studied and examined the Scriptures daily. So, join in with us today as we can learn how to read and apply God's Word to our daily living.

Acts 17:1-9 (ESV)

¹ Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." ⁴ And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵ But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶ And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷ and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus." ⁸ And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. ⁹ And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

Acts 17:10-15 (ESV)

¹⁰ The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. ¹² Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. ¹³ But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. ¹⁴ Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there. ¹⁵ Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

The Bereans were described as...

More Noble - that originally meant *high born* but came to have a more general connotation of being *open, tolerant, generous*, having the qualities that go with "good breeding.

With Eagerness – forwardness of mind, readiness (of mind), ready (willing) mind.

The Bereans were also thorough in...

Examining – to *scrutinize, investigate, interrogate, determine*: —ask, question, discern, examine, judge, search, or to sift up and down.

We believe...

"This Bible is the inspired and authoritative Word from God and is my all-sufficient guide for my everyday faith and conduct."

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How can I become a student of the Word?

1. Personally *read* the Scriptures
2. Personally *examine/study*

2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV)

¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

How can I become a student of the Word?

3. *Memorize* the Scriptures

Psalm 119:11 (ESV)

¹¹I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

How can I become a student of the Word?

4. *Talk about/instruct* the Scriptures with your family

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 (ESV)

⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

How can I become a student of the Word?

5. *Join* and *be faithful* to a small group Bible Study, Discipleship class, or Life Group

Acts 2:42 (NLT)

⁴²All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

How can I become a student of the Word?

6. Read the scriptures in *multiple translation*

Recommended Bible Translations:

1. New Living Translation
2. Good News Translation
3. New International Version OR God's World Translation OR Standard Bible
4. King James Versions OR NKJV OR Modern English Version
5. English Standard Version OR The NET Bible

How can I become a student of the Word?

7. Use a study Bible, commentaries, etc. to **understand the bigger picture**