

Cultural Evangelism

Acts 17:16-34

Read Acts 17:16-34

Questions (Choose some of...)

1. **Paul was deeply distressed by the idols in Athens (vv. 16–17).**
 - What are some of the "idols" in our culture today? Which ones are most tempting for Christians, and how can we recognize them in our own lives?
2. **Paul engaged people in the synagogue and the marketplace (vv. 17–18).**
 - Where are the "marketplaces" of our lives today (work, social media, school, sports, etc.)? What would it look like to naturally share your faith in those settings?
3. **Instead of immediately condemning the Athenians, Paul began with something they already understood—the altar to the unknown god (vv. 22–23).**
 - How can we learn to connect the gospel to the beliefs, questions, or experiences of people around us without compromising its truth?
4. **Paul explained who God is before explaining what people must do (vv. 24–29).**
 - Why is it important for people to have a correct understanding of God? How does our view of God influence the way we live each day?
5. **Paul challenged the Athenians' assumptions while still speaking respectfully (vv. 22–31).**
 - Think of a difficult conversation you've had about faith. What can you learn from Paul's approach that would help you communicate more effectively and graciously?
6. **Paul declared that God "commands all people everywhere to repent" (v. 30).**
 - Repentance is often misunderstood. What does genuine repentance look like in everyday life, and what areas of your life might God be calling you to surrender?
7. **The resurrection of Jesus became the turning point of Paul's message (vv. 31–32).**
 - Why is the resurrection essential to the Christian faith? How would you explain its significance to someone who is sceptical?
8. **The responses to Paul's message were mixed—some mocked, some wanted to hear more, and some believed (vv. 32–34).**

- How should Christians respond when people reject, question, or accept the gospel? What keeps us faithful even when results are uncertain?

9. **Paul demonstrated both courage and cultural awareness in Athens.**

- How can Christians engage with today's culture without simply blending in or withdrawing from it? What practical habits help maintain that balance?

Looking at this entire passage, what is one specific action you could take this week to live out Paul's example?

- It could involve starting a spiritual conversation, praying for someone, learning about another person's worldview, inviting someone to church, or identifying and removing an idol from your own life. What will you do, and what might be the biggest challenge?