



LESSON 15

ACTS 17

1. After your study of **Acts 16:6-40**, what truth about **God** stuck with you and how did it influence your thoughts, words, or actions this week?

2. Pray for the **Spirit** to open your eyes and heart as you read **Acts 17**. In this chapter, Paul proclaims the gospel in several cities. Describe the different types of people who hear the gospel and how their varied responses reflect their respective philosophies.

3. a) Paul preaches to the Thessalonians in **V1-3**. Note the verbs the author Luke chooses to describe Paul's actions. What do these verbs communicate about Paul's method and message?

b) What are the key points that Paul makes about the **Messiah**, and why is each a critical component of the Christian faith? *Challenge:* Include any Old Testament verses that support these points.

4. **V4-9** describes how the Thessalonians received Paul's message. What were Paul and Silas accused of and why do you think they were perceived as "causing trouble all over the world" when the gospel is good news?
5. Based on Paul's time in Berea (**V10-15**), what about the Bereans showed them to be of "noble character"? Write a truth about how we test or prove the messages we hear?
6. Review **V16-28**.
- a) Paul visits Athens and the Areopagus, the city's religious and civic center. What stands out about this place? How does Paul cater his approach to the Athenians in order to draw them into the gospel? Include verse references.
- b) List the attributes of **God** that Paul describes in his teaching. Choose one attribute and discuss how this facet of **God's** character pierces your heart today.
7. a) In your own words, restate Paul's line of reasoning in **V29-34** to show how he addresses the Athenian problem of idolatry with both hope and warning.

b) Idols are anything that dethrone the one true **God** in our heart. Take a sober inventory of your heart and repent of the unworthy objects or concepts that have captivated you.

8. Go back through the events of the chapter, seeing how Paul's messages spread the gospel in culturally relevant and compelling ways. What is one step you can take to become better equipped to communicate the good news of **Jesus Christ** in light of prevailing philosophies of our culture?

9. REFLECT ON THE WORDS OF JESUS

Jesus said in **Luke 24:26-27**, “**Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?**’ **And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.**” Write a prayer asking for a renewed eagerness to see **Christ** in all the Scriptures, and to proclaim Him as **Messiah**.

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST