

**“TELL GOD’S STORY”**  
**Intentional Outreach #4**  
**February 7, 2021**  
**Acts 17:16-34**

**What We Learn About Intentional Outreach from the Apostle Paul:**

- 1. Be a witness for Jesus wherever you are!** *While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> 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. Acts 17:16-17*
  
- 2. Approach people with THEIR perspective in mind.** *Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. Acts 17:22-23*
  
- 3. Develop your approach to be respectful yet bold and clear.** Acts 17:24-31

**Elements of the Message of the Gospel:**

- **God created everything and it was good!** *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Genesis 1:31*
  
- **God created man and woman with the choice to trust or not trust God.** *When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Genesis 3:6-7*
  
- **When Adam and Eve sinned, the seed of their rebellion is passed to each of us.** *There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... Romans 3:22b-23*
  
- **Because God is just, the consequence of sin is forever separation from Him (death).** *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23*  
  
*Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. John 3:18*
  
- **God loves you and wants you to be part of His forever family.** *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*
  
- **Through Christ’s sacrifice, all who believe are made right with God.** *God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. Romans 3:25*

*This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. Romans 3:22a*

**THE JOURNEY DEVOTIONAL**  
**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Week**  
**Discussion Questions from the Sermon**

1. What was something you read in the weekly Scripture readings or heard in the sermon that made an impact on you? Explain.
  
2. What are barriers that might keep you from telling God's story to other people?
  
3. Who told you God's story? If you are a Christian, what about the story was compelling to you?
  
4. In the sermon we talked about ONE way to tell God's story? How is this different from the way that you might share God's story? That is, what would you add or delete?
  
5. Read Acts 17:16-34. What do you learn about outreach from Paul's example?
  
6. How did the people respond when they heard Paul (see verses 32-34)? How does this make you feel?
  
7. How will you respond to this sermon and/or the Scripture passages?

**Weekly Bible Memory Verse:** *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Romans 6:23

**Bible Readings:** Reading these passages of Scripture will help you become like Jesus in how you think and what you do, in addition to preparing you for next week's sermon. Remember to read these passages slowly, allowing the Lord to speak to your heart and mind:

Monday – John 3:1-15

Tuesday – John 4:1-26

Wednesday – John 1:35-51

Thursday – John 5:1-15

Friday – Luke 19:1-27

Saturday – Acts 9:1-19

Sunday – Acts 10