A Summer's Journey: Week 2 - Make God Known

ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS

- 1. What would you like to be known/remembered for?
- 2. What is your favourite time of the day and why?

WORD

We started a series two weeks ago entitled "A Summer's Journey". The objective of this series is we will look at the journey of Apostle Paul as he took three major missionary journeys throughout the Roman Empire. This four-week series will look at each of these trips from a high overview and then in the last week we will examine the overlapping themes present for each of them as we explore what it means to be a *missionary today*. Last week we talked about what is church, what a church look like during the early time, and what is the purpose of the church.

This week, let us talk about our mission as a church and that is to Make Him Known. The world that we live in need to hear the GOOD NEWS which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Acts 17:24-28 (NIV)

24 "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. 26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. 27 God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 28 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.

Paul uses the opportunity to take one of their idols and point to Jesus (v. 23). The unknown God is made known through Jesus! The shadow they have been worshipping, the idea they have been chasing, has turned around and caught them, has been revealed in the person of Jesus (vv. 23–27). Throughout Paul's speech, he quotes from Greek philosophers and poets. This raises an interesting point: all truth is God's truth. Is it possible that God was speaking to the Greeks for a long time through their language, giving them glimpses of his glory, in preparation for when the gospel would reach them?

Quoting from one of the poets and philosophers of the culture, Paul makes the very strong statement to his hearers that the entirety of their life is found in God (v. 28). Studying Paul's missionary trips, we see this truth lived out in Paul's life: his success, his sufferings, his contentment. He is always aware of the power and presence of God.

DISCUSSION

What important principle can we learn for witnessing to those who differ greatly from our beliefs?

WORD

As we witness, The Holy Spirit is very much involve and All we need to do is..

* Go

Acts 13:2-3 (NIV)

2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

*Stand up

Acts 17:22-23 (NIV)

22 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. 23 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

*Speak up

Acts 17:23b (NIV)

...—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

DISCUSSION

With the points above, what seems to be difficult for you to do? How can you overcome this?

LIFE APPLICATION

Let us go, stand up and speak up.We don't need to be an evangelist to obey the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20). All of us are called to go for the mission. God is a missional God from the very beginning. His heart is to reach all people to know Him. Therefore, let us make Him known. Let us be empowered by the Holy Spirit as we obey Him for the Great Commission.

VERSE TO MEDITATE ON

John 17:3 (NIV)

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

PRAYER

Share your prayer request and answered prayer. Pray for one another and throughout this wee



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