
HE IS NOT FAR FROM EACH ONE OF US

ACTS 17:16-34 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD
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So that people who don't yet know Jesus would come to see just how close they are to him, I must...

1. *...first, show genuine concern for their spiritual state (v. 16-21)*
2. *...then relate the gospel to their specific situation (v. 22-26)*
3. *...presenting Jesus as the clear alternative (v. 27-28)*
4. *...and not equivocating at all on the error of their ways (v. 29-34).*

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1. **As Christians, we have a sense that God is far from us, but also that he is close to us.**
 - Knowing this, how much does it speak to the intimate, personal relationship that he calls us to?
 - How does it affect and comfort us seeing he is so close?
 - Do we consider how different would life look like if we did not have this comfort?
2. **Our text tells us that Paul was provoked within him when he saw the great number of idols in Athens.**
 - Does that bring us to consider the idols we continually allow in our lives?
 - Does the distortion of the divine also cause us to live out and preach the gospel, as was the case for Paul?
 - How can we home in on the curiosity of modern society and turn it into an opportunity for sharing Christ?
3. **Paul communicated the gospel to their situation without compromising truth.**
 - How do we answer those who affirm everyone is somehow right, when we know Jesus is the only way?
 - How can we communicate the gospel effectively to those who think they are "too far gone?"
 - What should our response be to those who reject and mock the gospel?