

Sermon Notes

The Need for Gospel Fluency

Acts 17:17-21

In our last look at Acts 17, we saw how “[Paul’s] spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city [of Athens] was full of idols” (v. 16). As we pick our study back up today, we notice that what he discovered about the spiritual state of this city did more than just provoke emotion in Paul; it provoked action. Although his intention for being in Athens was not inherently missional, he was compelled to do something about the lostness that confronted him. And we see something intriguing about the gospel through Paul’s response: he was able to proclaim it in multiple contexts in meaningful ways. What we see in Paul is a picture of gospel fluency, which is something we all should aspire to attain.

I. “So he reasoned...” (v. 17a)

II. “...in the synagogue

└ with the Jews &
the devout persons,” (v. 17b)

III. “and in the marketplace

└ every day
with those who happened
to be there,” (v. 17c)

IV. “and they took him and brought him
to the Areopagus...” (v. 19a)

A truth we must understand: The gospel is ENCULTURATED.

The gospel we proclaim is enculturated.

We as gospel proclaimers are enculturated.

Those to whom we share the gospel are enculturated.

In order to faithfully steward the gospel, we must CONTEXTUALIZE it.

[Good] contextualization always takes place on 3 levels:

We must always be cautious of 2 great dangers:

Weekly Discipleship Guide

Know

What does God intend for me to know?
In your journal, use the following prompts to write some truths that stood out from this week's message.

I never knew...	I was reminded...	A question I still have...
I was challenged...	I was convicted...	A truth I could share...
I was encouraged to...		I need to dig deeper into...

Be (Consider)

What does God's Word lead me to prayerfully consider?
In your journal, use the following questions to write some prompts to use in praying through this week's passage.

Is there a command to obey?	Am I convicted to confess any sin?
How am I compelled to exalt God?	Is there a sin to avoid?
Is there a promise to claim?	How do I need to rest in Jesus/the gospel?
Is there a principle to follow?	How can I pray for someone else?
Is there an example to follow?	What am I compelled to love or desire?

Do (Yield)

How does God's Word call me to yield my life? In your journal, write your answers and thoughts in response to the following questions.

In light of our time in the word on Sunday, how would you describe *gospel fluency*, and how do we attain it?

What are some of the greatest obstacles in our own culture for believers seeking to proclaim the message of the gospel in *meaningful* ways? How do we combat these?

What was the most practical help for you from Sunday's message? What do you find "sticking with you" since then?

**Use this guide to help you internalize this week's message & to prepare for Life Group.*

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