

Week 18:
Acts 17:16-34

ACTS²

Gospel in a Cultural Context

TODAY'S
VERSES:

Acts 17:16-34

UPCOMING
@ ELEMENT

Prayer Zoom Call

12:30pm today. A time to pray with one of our Elders and others.

Royal Family Kids

Watch interview Friday on youtube to learn more about this ministry for foster children.

Find all links at:

<https://linktr.ee/ourelement>

Need Help During Covid-19?

If you are in serious need, and would like help or prayer, please email connect@ourelement.org.

BIG IDEA:

The culture into which Christianity was born was just as skeptical and hostile to the claims of Christianity as ours is today. Because of Paul's desire for the people in the world to know Christ, he heads into the marketplace to share the good news of God's complex love. Tim Keller points out that Paul's reasoning in the market place shows: 1) The cultural power of the Gospel 2) The intellectual power of the Gospel and 3) The personal power of the Gospel.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What is the cultural power of the Gospel that Paul lays out?

Where/into what cultural sphere are you personally sent?

What is the intellectual power of the Gospel that Paul lays out?

Paul says if Jesus was raised from the dead, declaring Himself to be the Son of God, then it doesn't matter if... we don't understand why God allows evil and suffering in the world... or if we do not know what happens to people who do did not hear about Jesus before they die... or what we feel... or whether it "works" for us... if we have all the answers or not.

What is the meaning of the statement, "that if God raised Jesus form the dead, it supercedes all of our questions and doubts?"

Are there any intellectual arguments you (or others) have (or do you) struggle(d) with?

How can we respond to those intellectual arguments in way that that honors the question while still pointing to the point of the resurrection?

What is the personal power of the Gospel that Paul would have laid out (had he not been cut off)?

If God is the great Creator and He is the judge, why did He send Jesus?

Why did He send this man who was raised from the dead?

What is the difference between how we view God as simple vs God as complex?

What is the difference between how we view God's simple love and complex love?

As Keller asks, "Is the passionate love of God for you so burning in your heart that it drives you out in service and love, complex love, into the marketplace like it did Paul?"

Does your heart burn for those enslaved to idols of their heart?

