

MISSIONAL – Acts 1-17

Intro. Matthew 16:18

The Church Is Devoted To God And One Another

- Ephesians 2:19, Acts 2:41-45; 9:17
- 1. Teaching
- 2. Fellowship
- 3. Breaking bread
- 4. Prayer

Prayer: *Lord, help my heart be devoted to your family. Show me where are you working in someone's life and how can I meet them in their place of greatest need?*

The Church Is Empowered And Led By The Holy Spirit

- Acts 1:8; 4:8; 8:29; 13:2-3

The Church Is A Family That Prays

- Mark 11:17, Acts 4:29-31

Prayer: *Jesus, help me grow more into a person of prayer who lives by the power of your Spirit and not my own. How is your Spirit leading me today?*

The Church Is Missional

- Luke 15:10, John 20:21-22, 2 Corinthians 5:14-15
- Acts 1:8; 4:12-13; 9:10-11, 17-18
- (See second page for how Paul shared the gospel in Acts 17:16-34)

Prayer: *May your love compel me not live my life for myself but for you. Lord, give me the boldness and the words to open my mouth and share the good news of Jesus Christ!*

America has become predominantly a pre-Christian Greek culture like the one Paul spoke to in Athens (Acts 17:16-34). We cannot assume people know who the one true God is or what it means to be a sinner in need of salvation. We might need to start with who God is or who Man is before we can tell them about Jesus.

Both Jesus and Paul captured this idea of “God, Man, and Jesus” in memorable verses - John 3:16, Romans 5:8

Tell Them Who God Is – See Paul's example in Acts 17:22-27

- God is the creator of everything that exists in the heavens and on earth (Genesis 1).
- God is good (Psalm 86:5; 100:5) which we can see in the life of Jesus Christ (Acts 10:38). You can trust God's good character.
- God is Holy which means he is absolutely pure and immeasurably good. He is not responsible for the sickness, injustice, or death that we see in the world (1 Peter 1:14-16).
- One day God will judge the world through Christ because of our sin (Acts 17:30-31). God will create a new heaven and earth where we can be with him (Isaiah 65:17-18, 2 Peter 3:11-13).
- God loves us and has relentlessly been seeking to restore what was broken in our relationship with him (John 3:16-17)

Tell Them Who Man Is – See Paul's example in Acts 17:27-31

- God made Man (i.e. men and women) in his own image and blessed them (Genesis 1:26-28, Genesis 2). From one man he made all nations that they should seek God and find him.
- Sin and death entered the world through Adam in the Garden when he disobeyed God's commandment (Gen. 3, Rom. 5:12).
- Sin is anything in our behavior, words, or heart that goes against God's commandments and Jesus' teachings.
- We are all sinners in need of salvation (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

Tell Them Who Jesus Is – See Paul's example in Acts 17:18, 31-34

- Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God's promise in Genesis to send one who would crush Satan (Gen. 3:15).
- Jesus did this by dying on the cross for our sins and rising from the grave three days later to defeat death and give eternal life for those who believe. (1 Corinthians 15:3-6, Romans 5:8, 17; 6:23)
- Jesus came that we might have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10). He said, *I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me* (John 14:6, Acts 4:12).
- If we believe Jesus' Word and trust him, we do not come into judgment but cross over from death to life (John 5:24, Romans 10:9). We become children of God (John 1:12).