



PROCLAIM

MCA

Sermon Outline

Text: Acts 17:16-34

Key Verse

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27

1. The Gospel Connects Us to God

God did this so they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.

Acts 17:27

2. The Gospel Moves Us to Repentance

For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.

Acts 17:31

3. The Gospel Transforms Us

Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

Acts 17:34

THE GOD WHO CAN BE KNOWN

DISCUSSION GUIDE
MARCH 3

Opening Thought

The early church proclaimed that God made all things through Jesus. He did this so we would seek him and find him. Paul declared that God is not far from any one of us. The unknown God has become known through Jesus.

Ice Breakers

- Do you like history? Why or why not?
- Are there parts of this historical account in Athens that stand out to you?

Dig Deeper

- When you read scripture do you ever fall into the trap of just pushing to get to the end of the passage?
- When we look at Paul's messages and letters he starts by pointing us toward grace, rather than what we are supposed to do. What do you think that means?
- Do you think it is possible to keep God's commandments to the level that he requires?
- Read Matthew 5:48. What do you think Jesus means when he says "be perfect"?
- Where are you placing your identity? Do you find it easy or difficult to keep your identity in Christ?
- Read Colossians 3:1-4 and discuss it as a group. What does it mean to be "hidden" in Christ?
- What stood out to you from today's sermon?

Closing

The people in Athens were religious people who knew there is more to life than what is here on earth. Yet, they were missing the critical understanding that God is near to us and has reconciled our sinfulness to himself through Jesus. Sometimes our own religion and traditions can hold us back from experiencing the fullness of God's Grace. The early church proclaimed that God has become known through Jesus. Do you know him?