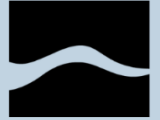


# SERMON NOTES

## ENGAGE WITH WISDOM

**Acts 17:16-34**



**BIG IDEA:** To engage unbelievers with wisdom, we must build redemptive relationships by being moved by their lost condition, considerate of their context, making the truth clear, and ministering with patience.

# APPLICATION GUIDE

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

## DISCUSS

Have you ever had a conversation with someone about Christ that felt intimidating or unexpected? What happened, and how did you respond?

Paul's spirit was *provoked* when he saw the idolatry in Athens (v. 16). What does this reveal about his heart for the lost? How should our love for God and people shape our response to the spiritual lostness around us?

Paul engaged different groups (Jews in the synagogue, everyday people in the marketplace, and intellectuals at the Areopagus). How does this demonstrate wisdom in evangelism? How can we learn from Paul's example in today's diverse cultural settings?

Paul built common ground by acknowledging their spiritual hunger (v. 22-23) and then pointed them to the true God. Why is it important to be considerate of people's context before presenting the gospel? How can we do this effectively in our conversations with unbelievers?

## APPLY

When you think about the unbelievers in your life (family, friends, co-workers), what causes you to feel compassion for their lostness like Paul did? How can you develop a greater burden for the lost?

Where do you naturally interact with unbelievers in your daily life? How can you be intentional about starting gospel conversations?

In what ways do you struggle with clearly presenting the gospel? What are some ways you can grow in explaining biblical truth with clarity and wisdom?

When have you felt discouraged because someone rejected or ignored the gospel? How does Paul's patience encourage you to keep sharing?

## COMMIT

Spend time praying for the people in your life who don't yet know Christ. Ask God to give you wisdom, boldness, and patience as you engage them with the gospel.