

Part 35 | **Worth Considering**

Acts 17:1-15

The Gospel is true and **REASONABLE**, (v. 1-4)

the true Gospel 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Romans 3:23, 6:23a; 5:8; 6:23b; 10:9-10; 10:13



rational to consider

and while some refuse to **CONSIDER** it (v. 5-9, 13)

jealousy & hostility compare 5:17; 13:45, 16:19 and 19:23-28

willful ignorance Matthew 13:15; Job 21:14; Romans 1:28; Zech. 7:11; 2 Peter 3:5

those who do **FIND LIFE!** (v. 4, 10-12)



God Wrote It All Down 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21

accessible Matthew 7:7; Jeremiah 29:13



Text us at **833-271-8805**.

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "**Pray for...**" followed by your request.

Or if you just need someone to talk to, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.

WHAT IS A *gospel* conversation?

Part of our
Enduring Reach vision is:

*By 2030 the people of
Wawasee Bible will engage in
10,000 Gospel Conversations*

So what is a "Gospel Conversation"?

First of all, by 10,000 Gospel Conversations we do not mean 10,000 people, but *conversations*.

A Gospel Conversation is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with someone in need of knowing of his love and grace.

A conversation that points to Jesus as the hero and gives testimony to his grace, as well as our own need for it, counts as a Gospel Conversation.

**Here's three (of many!)
types of Gospel Conversations:**

1. I share with someone what Jesus is doing in my life *today*. Maybe something good, maybe bringing me through a hard time, maybe a point from Sunday's message that hit me, etc.
2. I share with someone my story of putting my faith in Christ.
3. I share the truth of the Gospel, and encourage them to believe it themselves.

Remember the key is to love. We're loved by Jesus, and so we're sent by Jesus to love others and invite them to follow him with us.

We'll share more soon, including some ideas to help you spark Gospel Conversations with the people God has sent *you* to!



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

Part of our goal at Life Group is just learning more about each other. Toward that end, this weekend we saw how Paul persuaded the Jews to join him in following Jesus. Growing up, were you more likely to: *Persuade one of your friends and/or family members? Or be persuaded by them?*

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Digging Deeper

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. .

1. In many ways, our current culture climate is similar to what Paul and Silas experienced in Acts 17. The hopeful thing for us is we can lean into God's Word, know we are not alone and that we are not the first group of people to walk through a similar situation. How might **James 1:19-27** help us in our response to the world around us?

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. ²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. **JAMES 1:19-27 (NIV)**

- Just as we look at our face in the mirror (verse 23) to remember who we are and what we look like, how might viewing the Word of God like a mirror help us to remember who God is?

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR OUTCOMES

If I'm truly growing as a follower of Jesus, I should be growing in the ways that I am...



1 | **Receiving From God.** Am I reading the Word regularly? Am I gathering to hear the Word taught? What is the fruit of the Spirit in my life?



2 | **Responding To God.** Am I worshiping Jesus or something else? Am I talking and listening to God regularly? Am I repenting of my sin?



3 | **Receiving From Others.** How am I in community with other Christians in our church who have a window to speak into my life?



4 | **Moving Toward Others.** How am I contributing to and initiating community with other Christians in our church or just consuming?



5 | **Going Out on Mission.** How am I regularly moving out toward those far from God, loving them and sharing God's Story and my own story?

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 17:10-12 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

¹⁰ The **brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue.**

¹¹ Now these **Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily** to see if these **things** were so.

¹² **Many** of them **therefore believed**, with not a few **Greek women of high standing as well as men.**

W	S	E	T	C	I	J	M	T	J	E	W	S	V
H	D	B	B	E	R	E	A	H	J	R	D	T	W
E	L	E	A	G	E	R	N	E	S	S	N	O	E
N	M	L	A	G	C	T	Y	S	I	P	A	U	L
I	O	I	N	L	E	B	K	S	L	S	A	C	L
G	R	E	E	K	I	R	S	A	A	C	R	C	M
H	E	V	X	N	V	O	T	L	S	R	R	N	A
T	C	E	A	D	E	T	A	O	Y	I	I	O	W
P	G	D	M	D	H	N	N	N	P	V	B	A	
S	H	J	I	M	M	E	D	I	A	T	E	L	Y
E	I	E	N	W	S	R	I	C	G	U	D	E	U
N	G	W	I	L	D	S	N	A	O	R	A	B	W
T	H	I	N	G	S	A	G	H	G	E	I	R	E
A	O	S	G	A	H	C	T	W	U	S	L	A	N
S	T	H	E	R	E	F	O	R	E	J	Y	N	T

life groups Study Guide (continued)

- How does remembering who God is help us to respond to the world around us?
 - In the passage above, verse 19 says, "... everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to become angry." Can you think of a time when you might have made a better decision if you'd have applied this wisdom?
 - If someone wants to apply the "quick, slow, slow" principle (v. 19), what are 2-3 steps they could take to actively grow in this way?
 - James mentions our tongue has high consequences and the power to make our faith worthless (v. 26). When you think about all the ways we use our words (speaking, writing, typing, texting, posting, etc.), think of a person who lives this out well in their life. What makes them unique?
2. Below are a list of Proverbs, followed by how to apply it. Read the Proverb, then the application. Put a star next to the two to three items you feel come most easily for you. Put a check-mark next to the two to three items that resonate most as an area of growth for you.

James 1:19 – Am I QUICK, SLOW, SLOW?

Proverbs 18:2-3 – Do I want to UNDERSTAND or only to be HEARD?

Matthew 7:6 – Do I expect JESUS-LIKE behavior from those who don't follow Jesus?

Proverbs 1:5-7 – Does all of my wisdom begin in the FEAR of the Lord?

Proverbs 12:15 – Do I think and live in an ECHO CHAMBER that doesn't invite WISDOM?

Proverbs 29:11 – Do I control my ANGER, or does my ANGER control me?

Proverbs 18:17 – Do I overreact to one side of the story, or do I leave room for the TRUTH to be revealed?

- Take a moment to reflect on the items you starred above. Why might those come more easily for you? Pick one of these areas and share with the group what has helped you live out this wisdom.
- We all have areas in our life where we want to improve. Take a moment to reflect on the items you check-marked above. What is one step you could take to work on these areas of your life?

Close

As you close, take time to pray for each other. Consider **dividing into separate groups of men and women** as you pray for one another.

This week's Study Guide is adapted in part from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

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ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, October 8, 2023



PART 35

Worth Considering

ACTS 17:1-15



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our Digital Bulletin & Connect Card.

<https://wawasee.today>