


Part 38 | Paul in Athens

Acts 17:16-34

To have a good Gospel Conversation,
start with **FRIENDSHIP**,

 **actually, start with prayer!** 1 Timothy 2:1-4; Romans 10:1; Colossians 4:3-4; Eph. 6:19;

win people, not arguments 17:16-23; Luke 7:34

ask good **QUESTIONS**,

to learn, not to teach/preach 17:22; Matthew 7:12

God has already been working 17:23

and keep it **SIMPLE!**

 **be able to share God's story** 17:24-31

you don't need all the answers, just your own answer 1 Peter 3:15



Have you had some Gospel Conversations? Tell us about it!
Text **"CONVERSATION"** to **833-271-8805**, then follow the prompts.
You can also text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, **"Pray for..."** followed by your request.

*For some helps on how to
share God's story and/or
your own story, visit:
youareloved.church/pearl*

Good Question...

Jesus was the master of asking questions to connect with people! Here's a few ideas that might help you ask good questions of people, and open the door for a Gospel Conversation with them.

Questions to Start...

- Where did you grow up?
- What was your family like?
- What did you like about school? Where did you go to college?
- How did you meet your spouse?
- How'd you end up in your career path?
- What are your dreams?
- What are you passionate about?
- What do you hope to get out of life?
- What would you change about your life if you could?

Some Deeper Questions

(You might not want to start with these...)

- What are some struggles you're facing? What fears do you have? What stressors?
- Do you think much about spiritual things?
- We've never had a chance to talk about your religious background. Where would you say you are in your spiritual journey?
- Did/Have/Do you ever go to church? What was it like?
- What is your concept of God? Do you believe he exists? Do you view him positively or negatively?
- What do you think about as you fall asleep at night?
- Do you ever wonder if there's more to life than this?

One tip: *When you ask, do it with a heart to genuinely know and learn from/about someone. Don't ask with the agenda or mindset that "you already know"; i.e. asking questions that only make them feel dumb and you look smart/knowledgable.*



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, here's two totally *random* questions to discuss and break the ice as you get going. Have everyone answer at least one:

1. *What's your favorite breakfast?*
2. *Whose life do you find inspiring?*

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. The story of your own spiritual journey is one of the most powerful tools you have to tell others about Jesus. If someone were to ask you, "What has God done for you?" or "What difference has being a follower of Jesus made in your life?" what might you say regarding:
 - ... *how you relate to and view others?*
 - ... *how you view what's most important?*
 - ... *how you view yourself?*
2. When it comes to sharing our faith with others, how we live is just as important as the words we share. **1 Thessalonians 2:1-13** gives us a great picture of what sharing both our words and our life with others looks like. As you read through this passage...
 - **Circle or highlight** any words or phrases that catch your attention.
 - **Underline** what you think is important to remember.
 - **Put an X** next to anything that confuses you.

¹ You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. ² We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong opposition. ³ For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. ⁴ On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. ⁵ You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed— God is our witness. ⁶ We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. ⁷ Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, ⁸ so we cared for you. Because we

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

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 17:24-28 (NIV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

²⁴“The God who **made** the world and **everything** in it is the **Lord of heaven** and **earth** and does not **live** in **temples built** by human hands.

²⁵And he is not **served** by human hands, as if he **needed anything**. **Rather**, he himself **gives everyone life** and **breath** and **everything else**.

²⁶From one man he **made** all the **nations**, that they should **inhabit** the whole **earth**; and he **marked** out their **appointed times** in **history** and the **boundaries** of their **lands**. ²⁷God did this so that they would **seek** him and **perhaps reach** out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸‘For in him we **live** and move and have our being.’

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

life groups Study Guide (continued)

loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well. ⁹ Surely you remember, brothers and sisters, our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel of God to you. ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed. ¹¹ For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, ¹² encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory. ¹³ And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe. **1 THESSALONIANS 2:1-13 (NIV)**

- What would it look like for you to share both the Gospel and your life with the people you rub shoulders with the most?
3. This weekend we heard we don't need to have all the answers to share our faith. But *how* we share “our answer” has a lot to do with the kind of influence we have on others. The Bible gives us some guidelines for the way we are to go about sharing and talking with others. What can we learn about how to talk and interact with others from the following passages?
- 2 Timothy 2:23-26 Titus 3:1-2 1 Corinthians 13:4-5**
- For the 1 Corinthians passage above, replace “love” with “how I talk is”. How accurate does this describe the way you talk when it comes to areas of disagreement or talking about your faith in Jesus?
4. To share God's story with others, you need to know it yourself! What do you see in the following passages from Psalms that could help motivate someone to spend more time interacting with God's Word?
- Psalms 1:1-3 Psalm 19:7-8, 11 Psalm 119:105 Psalm 119:98-100**
- Which of these benefits have you experienced in your own life?
 - Which of the benefits in these passages is most motivational for you?

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.



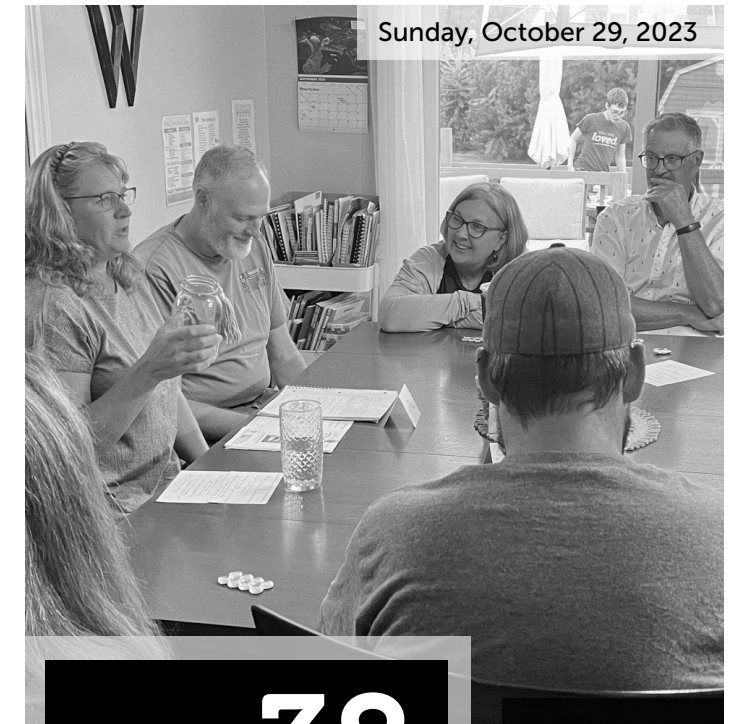
Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

Wawasee Community Bible Church

2035 East 1300 North | Milford, Indiana 46542 | 574-658-9161 | wawaseebible.com

ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION



Sunday, October 29, 2023

PART 38

Paul in Athens

ACTS 17:16-34



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our Digital Bulletin & Connect Card.

<https://wawasee.today>

