

BOOK OF ACTS // WEEK 26

MAKING THE UNKNOWN GOD KNOWN

Jason Brinker - 03/24/24

GROWING TOGETHER

If you could design your dream Easter egg, what would it look like? Would it be colorful and patterned, filled with delicious treats, or perhaps adorned with meaningful symbols? Describe your ideal Easter egg creation, and share what elements you would incorporate to make it uniquely yours. Get creative and let your imagination run wild!

Imagine you're in Paul's shoes, walking through the streets of Athens and encountering all the different idols and shrines. How would you feel, and what thoughts would run through your mind as you witness the spiritual hunger and idolatry around you? Share your reflections on how you might respond to such a situation and what actions you would take to share the message of Jesus with the people of Athens.

GROWING WITH GOD

Read [Acts 17:16-34](#) aloud and go over your sermon notes with one another. (Answer all or some of the questions)

Acts Ch. 17 can be described as Paul's missionary journey to spread the Gospel of Jesus. In verses 16-17, when he arrives in Athens, Paul's response to the idolatry was to reason with the people and meet them where they were. To be more specific, the feeling described towards what he was witnessing was provoked. Pastor Jason tells us Paul's feeling of provocation was a mixture of being angered, broken, and grieved all at the same time.

- **Have you ever travelled to a place where you knew Jesus was needed?**
- **How can we follow Paul's example in engaging with our culture and sharing the Gospel in a place where we may feel like an outsider?**
- **Share how you might begin a conversation with someone in a place where Jesus is far from their mind and daily life.**

Pastor Jason says that Paul's message is simple, the answer is Jesus. He died on the cross for our sins and God has raised Him from the dead. Salvation, forgiveness of sins, and eternal life are found only in Jesus.

- **In your experience, what have you heard or seen that makes belief in God difficult or hard to understand for people?**
- **In what other ideas or things do people place their beliefs in if not Jesus?**
- **How do we as Christians gently and lovingly show them the error of the false hope they have and point them to the one true God?**

As Paul is passing through Athens he addresses the local men in and in verse 23 he says, "For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god'. God makes Himself very known to us through Scripture, through events, through thoughts, etc.

- **If someone were to ask you how they would know if God were real or how He can be known, how would you respond?**
- **In what ways in your own life have you been convinced of who God is?**

GROWING IN OBEDIENCE & SCRIPTURE

Invite: Reach out to at least three people in your life—friends, family members, coworkers, or neighbors - and personally invite them to join you for Easter services at Catalyst Church. Share with them the significance of Easter and why it's meaningful to you. Offer to pick them up, accompany them, or provide any support they may need to attend.

Pray and Prepare: Commit to praying daily leading up to Easter for opportunities to share the Gospel with others and for the hearts of those you've invited to be open to God's message. Take time to prepare your own heart by reflecting on the significance of Easter and meditating on Scripture passages that emphasize Jesus' resurrection and the hope it brings.

Engage in Conversations: Initiate intentional conversations with those around you about the Easter season and its spiritual significance. Ask open-ended questions to gauge their thoughts on faith, Jesus, or the meaning of Easter. Listen actively and empathetically to their responses, and be prepared to share your own personal testimony or experiences of encountering Jesus. Seek to understand their perspective and offer encouragement and support, regardless of their beliefs.

Here are the three insights Pastor Jason gave us:

1. The Vision for Catalyst Church is this: We exist to glorify God by loving all people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
2. Our God gives us the gift of eternal life.
3. Our God can be known.

GROWING IN PRAISE AND WORSHIP

This week's song list if you'd like to worship with your group:

[Raise a Hallelujah](#)

[The Dove](#)

[Gratitude](#)

GROWING WITH CATALYST PEOPLE

Be sure to follow Catalyst Church on all the major social media platforms for the latest information and words of encouragement.



