

LIFEGROUP STUDY
HOW TO START A REVOLUTION:
“Turn the World Upside Down”
Acts 17:1-15
20210523

LEADER NOTES

OVERVIEW

Welcome back to our series, How to Start a Revolution. Over the weeks of this series, we're exploring the book of Acts to see how the NT church was the Revolution for Jesus in their day and how we can be the Revolution today! In Acts 16 the apostles are accused of "turning the world upside down" with their messages. The Gospel is powerful and an enemy of our world system. Its call to repent, its focus on grace, and its lifting up Jesus is contrary to the way the world functions. In this first week of our return to our teaching from the book of Acts, we'll "catch up" by looking at the history of Acts up to chapter 16. Then we will look at how the apostles "turned the world upside down" with the Gospel message. Our goal is that we would grow in courage as we challenge one another to live out the Gospel in our personal worlds

ICEBREAKER - That Took Guts!

Have you ever been sky diving? ☺ Have you ever signed up for an experience that might make others say, "Wow. That took guts!"? What did that decision teach you about yourself? **Share your "gutsy" story with the group!**

STUDY

1. In his teaching on Sunday, Ken gave an overview of where we've been for far in our series, How to Start a Revolution – looking back to Acts 1 - 16. **What is a key thought or highlight for you from his overview?**

LEADER NOTE: If your group members have not watched the teaching from Sunday, they can do that here <https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/media/>

READ: Acts 17:1-15

2. God wants to grow our courage in living out the Gospel in our personal worlds. **How do you see courage being lived out in the lives of Jesus' followers in Acts 17:1-15?**

LEADER NOTE: In this chapter we see Paul and Silas demonstrating courage by going places where they know they may encounter opposition. They travel to Thessalonica and Berea and they go to the Jewish synagogues. When they were at the synagogues, they preached boldly about Jesus and they called people to make a decision about Him. In Thessalonica, Jason, a local resident and a follower of Jesus, welcomed Paul and Silas into his home, likely knowing this could bring persecution his way. The believers in Thessalonica were courageous as they helped Paul and Silas evade their enemies and helped get them out of the city and on to Berea. The believers in Berea were courageous as they investigated the Scriptures to confirm Paul's message, as they placed their faith in Jesus and as they helped Paul escape Berea and go to the coast.

3. What factors allowed these followers to be so courageous?

LEADER NOTE: There were a number of factors that helped these early followers be courageous as they were. They were filled with the Holy Spirit (see Acts 2:1-4). They were a community together (see Acts 2:42-47). They prayed for one another. They looked to one another for an example of how to live courageously. They were absolutely convinced about the life-changing message of the Gospel and their mission to turn the world upside down with this message.

4. Each of us have the challenge/opportunity to live out the Gospel in our personal worlds. **What are some principles you can draw from today's passage about how to live out the Gospel with courage?**

LEADER NOTE: Each of us has the opportunity to live out the Gospel with courage in our personal worlds. We can do as these early followers did. We can go places where people need to hear about Jesus. Examples of this might be our workplace, our neighbourhoods, our relationships in our sphere of influence. We can rely on God's power, his Holy Spirit, to guide us and give us the words to say. We can pray for one another and be a strong community for one another. We can ask ourselves, "Am I absolutely convinced about the life-changing message of the Gospel and my role in helping to turn the world upside down with this message?" Today, let's ask God to grow our courage to live out the Gospel for His glory!

PRAYER

One huge value Creekside has is to courageously reach out to our community with the Good News of Jesus! This week, let's pray for our outreach as a church.

- Pray for Creekside's Big Serve community service campaign, starting now through August!
- Pray that as Creeksiders sign up to serve, that agencies and ministries and the people they serve will experience the love of Christ through us.

NOTE: You and your Lifegroup can register for a variety of Covid-safe projects - keep checking the job board at <https://www.creeksidechurch.ca/thebigserve/>