

**LIFEGROUP STUDY**  
**HOW TO START A REVOLUTION:**  
**“Telling the Jesus’ Story to Those Who’ve Never Heard”**  
**Acts 17:16-34**  
**20210530**

**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! The Gospel is a strange message for those who have not heard it before. Paul shows us some key strategies for sharing the Good News of Jesus with people whose belief system is eclectic. The culture of Athens in Paul’s day is in many ways much like out present day culture. The goal of today’s study is that we would gain confidence to share the Gospel with those in our relationship circle as we see how Paul shared Jesus with the people he encountered in Athens.

**ICEBREAKER** - My Travel Discovery

When the Apostle Paul arrived in Athens, he spent time walking around the city, taking note of what he saw there, particularly all the idols. What discovery have you made in your travels? Is there a travel destination you remember for being particularly interesting because of what you discovered there about the local culture? **Share your travel discovery with the group!**

**STUDY**

1. On Sunday, Ken defined a worldview as a collection of attitudes, values, stories and expectations about the world around us, which inform our every thought and action. It is expressed in ethics, religion, philosophy, scientific beliefs and so on. **Why is understanding about worldview so important when it comes to sharing the Good News about Jesus?**

**LEADER NOTE:** It is important to clean our own “world view glasses” to help us see or focus more clearly on what it is we believe. It is also important to understand the worldview of those around us so we can establish a starting point with them for sharing the Good News.

READ ACTS: 17:16-34

2. What do you note about Paul’s approach to understanding the worldview of Athens? **What did he do to understand?**

LEADER NOTE: Paul took time to walk around the city and learn about the worldview of the people there. He engaged in conversation with the Jews and God-fearing Greeks in the synagogues as well as the philosophers and common people in the public square. This is instructive for our sharing of the Good News. In his teaching, Ken said, "We live in a world with many worldviews all around us. Listening and seeking to understand what it is that people believe and how they understand things and so on is a critical starting point. And it can encourage them to open their door and allow us to share what we believe with them.

3. The Gospel is a powerful message, not just for individual peace, but to change our world in the marketplace of ideas. **Why is this important for us to remember?**

LEADER NOTE: Paul sees the Gospel not just as something that brings you individual personal peace but as something that also has the power to bring order to the marketplace, the public square or societal life itself. He goes to the very center of the life of Athens which indicates that he believes that the Gospel is able to stand in the ring and go toe to toe with all the other philosophies of the day. The Gospel is intellectually ordered enough to debate and persuade even the most brilliant of philosophers. Paul has confidence and so too can we that Christianity can challenge the most dominant ideas in our culture.

4. Looks again at Acts 17:22-23. **How did Paul use the Athenian's altar to the UNKNOWN GOD to begin to build his case for his God?**

LEADER NOTE: Paul used this altar to the UNKNOWN GOD as a reference point to begin to begin to share the Gospel. He grabbed their attention by referring to an idol they had in their city, then he offered to help to know this unknown God.

5. In Paul's sharing of the GOOD NEWS in Acts 17, he teaches that God is our Creator, Self-Sustaining, Sustainer, Sovereign, Knowable, our Judge and our Saviour. **How might this template help give you confidence in sharing the GOOD NEWS of Jesus?**

LEADER NOTE: Paul's teaching about who God is can give us confidence to offer an understandable, compelling outline of our worldview. Although it may seem strange to those who hear it, we can have confidence that God can use our sharing as a seed in the lives of those who hear it.

## **PRAYER**

This week, let's pray for Celebrate Recovery's national Canadian and Cambodian ministries.

- We praise God and ask for prayer for the groups that are running online, new groups starting & for the people getting connected into CR. [www.celebraterecovery.ca](http://www.celebraterecovery.ca)
- For leadership and encouragement for the smaller groups and groups in the Northern Regions of Canada especially, that have struggled to remain meeting in person or online.
- For additional leaders to meet the needs in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Also, for the prisoners in Cambodia and Canada, that have not been able to have volunteers or visitors to come in, that the Christians inside would rise up to serve one another.