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| **SERIES** | ACTS: A Church for the People |
| **BIBLE** | Acts 17:16-33 |
| **TITLE/TOPIC** | A Church for the Seekers |
| **OVERVIEW** | Our city is full of people that are worshippers (seekers) and they are worshipping something or someone in their life. Through this message we will learn that God God plants us and places us in different places so that we like Paul will proclaim to others and introduce them to the “unknown God.” As we know God desires for people to come to know Him. Are we aware of all the people around us and that God plants us where we should live, work, shop, workout, etc. for the purpose of introducing them to God. |
| **SCRIPTURE BREAKDOWN** | **BIG IDEA: SINCE ALL PEOPLE AROUND US ARE WORSHIPPERS WE NEED TO BE A COMMUNITY THAT INTRODUCES THEM TO THE ONE TRUE AND LIVING GOD.**  **SEVERAL THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS WE SEEK TO INTRODUCE GOD TO OTHERS:**   1. **AS YOU SEEK TO INTRODUCE GOD TO OTHERS, RECOGNIZE WHO GOD IS AND SERVE HIM WELL – HE IS LORD! (V. 24-25)**   *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 hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.*  God doesn’t need us – we need Him.  We exist for His purpose.  Remember who He is and who you are and that the time will eventually run out so use your time well.   1. **SURRENDER TO THE TRUTH THAT GOD PLACES YOU EXACTLY WHERE HE WANTS YOU TO BE – TRUST HIM. (v. 26)**   *26 From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.*  God has chosen your roommate, teacher, classroom etc. for a specific reason. You might not understand, but ask God is there something you want to teach me through this?  God brings people into your life to be tools that mold and shape you. Some are to mentor you and some are relationships that are hard to navigate and yet God will use these people to shape you and mold you.   1. **UNDERSTAND THAT GOD SOVEREIGNLY ORCHESTRATES AND GOES TO GREAT MEASURES SO THAT PEOPLE WILL SEEK HIM, REACH OUT FOR HIM, AND ULTIMATELY FIND HIM – SO COOPERATE WITH HIM! (v. 27)**   *27 God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.*   1. **ALWAYS POINT TO JESUS’ DEATH AND RESURRECTION AS YOU SHARE WITH OTHERS AND KNOW THAT SOME WILL ACCEPT AND OTHERS WILL REJECT – BE WILLING TO SHARE. (v. 29-34).**   ***29****“Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill.****30****In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.****31****For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”*  ***32****When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.”****33****At that, Paul left the Council.****34****Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.* |
| **GOSPEL** | How does this sermon bring people to the Gospel?  This message stirs people that know Jesus to be bold and share the Good News with others knowing that God brings people into our lives to share with others. |
| **NEXT**STEPS | Begin | Connect | Engage | Grow | Disciple  Need to grow and share with others. This is also an opportunity to encourage us to mentor others through this experience. |