

BLUEPRINT

Acts 17

Pastor Mike Badolato

Three vital components to evangelism:

- THE RIGHT HEART
- THE RIGHT MESSAGE
- THE RIGHT SPIRIT

¹⁵ Those who escorted Paul brought him to Athens and then left with instructions for Silas and Timothy to join him as soon as possible. ¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

Acts 17:15-17 NIV

Ask these questions about the people in our city:

Where do they SPEND THEIR TIME?

Where do they SPEND THEIR MONEY?

Where do they GET THEIR JOY?

What do they ALWAYS HAVE ON THEIR MIND?

Ask yourself:

Where do I SPEND MY TIME?

Where do I SPEND MY MONEY?

Where do I GET MY JOY?

What do I ALWAYS HAVE ON MY MIND?

¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ So he reasoned

Acts 17:16-17 NIV

THE RIGHT HEART - Be distressed about the state of humanity

TWO THINGS THAT CAN HELP US BECOME DISTRESSED

1. UNDERSTAND IDOLATRY IS A WORSHIP PROBLEM
2. REMEMBER WHO YOU WERE

¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

Acts 17:17 NIV

¹⁸ A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, “What is this babbler trying to say?” Others remarked, “He seems to be advocating foreign gods.” They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.

Acts 17:18 NIV

Pluralism claims that all religions are equally true, or that one religion can be true for some and another for others.

THE RIGHT MESSAGE - The Good News

¹⁹ Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” ²⁰ You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean.”

Acts 17:19-20 NIV

²¹ (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

Acts 17:21 NIV

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

Acts 17:22-23 NIV

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

Acts 17:24-25 NIV

²⁶ From 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. ²⁷ God 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.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

Acts 17:26-28 NIV

THE RIGHT MESSAGE

THE GOOD NEWS

-God's perfect design

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."

Acts 17:29-30 NIV

THE RIGHT MESSAGE

THE GOOD NEWS

-God's perfect design

-Sin

Sin - *In the past God overlooked such ignorance,*

THE RIGHT MESSAGE

THE GOOD NEWS

-God's perfect design

-Sin

-Repent

Repent – *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."

Acts 17:31 NIV

THE RIGHT MESSAGE

THE GOOD NEWS

-God's perfect design

-Sin

-Brokenness

-Repent

-Gospel

Gospel – *he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed and 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.

Acts 17:32-34 NIV

THE RIGHT SPIRIT - Power and Confidence in God

¹ Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. ³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵ For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 NIV

¹⁷ So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

Acts 17:17 NIV

²⁶ From 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. ²⁷ God 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.

Acts 17:26-27 NIV

²⁷ God 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.

Acts 17:27 NIV

¹⁴ For I have a great sense of obligation to people in both the civilized world and the rest of the world, to the educated and uneducated alike. ¹⁵ So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach the Good News. ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. ¹⁷ This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."

Romans 1:14-17 NLT