

S.G. Study Guide: *To the End of the Earth.* Acts 17:16-34

Opening Thought: Has God ever given you a specific burden for a person or people? How did you respond to it? Share as a group. What fruit or confirmation did God give to you?

1. Provoked to reason: *A passion for the planet.* (Acts 17:16-21)

- What was Athens known for?
- What provoked Paul in Athens? How can you compare Paul's concern and/or burden to our culture today?
- Who are the three types of people Paul shared the gospel with while in Athens? Make modern parallels.
- The people of Athens were philosophically self-centric. How can we compare to this humanism in our current culture? Share modern day examples.

2. Proclaiming Repentance: *Moving people from religion to relationship.* (Acts17: 22-31)

- What was the unknown God and why do you think the Athenians had this idol? How do we see this mentality manifest in our culture today? What about in our church culture?
- Paul proclaimed the nature of God to the Athenians. Why did he do so? What is the importance of understanding the nature of God? How do churches misunderstand the nature of God today? Why is this a problem?
- Discuss the difference between "natural" and "special" revelation? How does Paul teach the difference? How does special revelation create great accountability?
- How does Paul introduce Christianity at that end of his sermon (vv.30-31) How and/or why was this brilliant? What can we learn from this model?

3. Producing Results: *The outcome of the gospel.* (Acts17: 32-34)

- What is the crux of the gospel?
- What is the product of correctly preaching the gospel?
- Discuss that some will be saved and some will not. Why?