

"WITNES"

March 31, 2024 | Reggie Roberson

WARM UP: How do you mark or celebrate a special occasion?

READ: Acts 17:22-31

FOCUS: Since Jesus rose from the dead we can know God intimately, live purposefully, and face our future securely.

OBSERVE:

- Paul is standing before a captive audience in the Athens Greece Areopagus or theater; Mars hill. Other great philosophers had been there like Plato, Socrates, and Aristotle. Although there is no record of Paul seeing Jesus while Jesus was physically present on earth, Paul can testify about Jesus because Paul encountered him after Jesus Christ was raised from the dead.
- People throughout all generations have the same issues as those in Athens during Paul's day. We are searching for God and we don't even know it. We are restless, searching for the peace and life of God. We are hungry seeking to have God's care and provision. We are fearful seeking God's protection. We are broken seeking God's healing. We are trapped seeking God's freedom. All the while we try to find these things in worshiping other things except for God: including money, sex and sexuality, status and achievement, education, or a romantic relationship, and like those in Athens the plethora of gods leaves us empty, lonely, and lacking purpose.
- God cares about our wellbeing. Jesus rose from the dead to conquer sin, death, and hell not for Himself but for us to be right with God, and live with Him both now and forever. Paul says God has made it easy for us to have a relationship with Him by knowing Him through Jesus. Paul testifies that God loves us and made every human to have a deep and special relationship with Him. Jesus is God and He is alive and wants to be known by you and me.

REFLECT:

- How has Jesus impacted your life whether through your relationship with Him or through how other believers have impacted you?
- Who is someone in your sphere that needs the hope that Jesus' resurrection provides? How would you share about that hope with them?

TAKE ACTION:

- Make time this week to celebrate where Jesus has brought you from, how your life has changed and use those reflections to encourage yourself for the coming breakthroughs that you will experience.
- Consider taking your next step in the King's Park Discipleship Path by joining a life group, discipleship class or our Equip program. Find out more at KingsPark.org/next-steps

PRAY: *Jesus, we ask for Your grace to better understand the love and hope that You provide. We ask that You would walk with us forward into the breakthroughs we need. Jesus, help us love others the way that You love us, in Jesus' name we pray, amen.*