**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. October 1, 2017**

**Proclaiming Jesus Christ In A Pluralistic Society**

**ACTS 17**

**Key Truth:** We must be willing to meet people where they are and yet not compromise the truth of the gospel.

**Paul the Missionary:**

1. Paul was a skilled missionary who understood his

 culture.

2. Paul’s methods changed with the audience but his

 message was the same for both. Romans 1:16

3. Paul was disturbed by the idolatry in Athens.

 A. Idolatry is alive and well in America. 1 Corinthians 10:1-12,

 Colossians 3:5

**Sharing Jesus in the marketplace of ideas:**

1. Start where people are not where you want them to go.

2 Be respectful of others beliefs.

3. Start with common ground.

4. Don’t try to modify behavior get them to see the majestic

 nature of God.

 A. God is Creator.

 B. God is Self-Sufficient.

 C. God is giver of life.

 D. God is Sovereign.

 E. God is Holy and Righteous.

5. Help them see their spiritual need for Jesus Christ.

6. Share the gospel with gentleness and respect.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Get into the Word of God and also be engaged in the culture. Pray that you would share the gospel without fear.

**CONNECTION GROUP HOMEWORK**

To prepare for this week’s meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

2. Did you or someone you know convert to Christianity from another religion? Describe that experience and who influenced you. If not, how did you first encounter Christ?

3. What circumstances do you think cause people to seek spiritual answers in life? What does that reveal to you about humanity?

4. Why was Paul’s heart disturbed by the cultural climate of Athens (ACTS 17:16)?

5. Paul met with people in both the synagogue and the marketplace. What are the different perspectives of the people in those two places?

6. Read John 4:7-25: What is the benefit of meeting people where they are for the sake of evangelism?

7. As a group, what can we do to pray for and reach out to people in our community and around the world that don’t know Christ this week?