



REACHING PEOPLE FOR CHRIST BACK TO THE BASICS

Pastor Evan Jacobsen • Compass Bible Church Hill Country • December 28, 2025 • Msg. G25-04

PREACHING POINT: Go reach people for Christ by proclaiming the whole Gospel, knowing that while many will mock, God will powerfully save some.

1. Reach _____ (vv.16-21)

2. Proclaim _____ (vv.22-31)

3. Go _____ (vv.32-34)

Acts 17:16–34 (ESV)

16 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. 19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20 For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." 21 Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. 22 So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. 26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, 28 for " 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, " 'For we are indeed his offspring.' 29 Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. 30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead." 32 Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, "We will hear you again about this." 33 So Paul went out from their midst. 34 But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others. For more information about LifeGroups at Compass Bible Church that utilize these questions as the basis for their weekly discussion, please visit compasshillcountry.org/lifegroups or email us at info@compasshillcountry.org.

1. What is one observation or application you found helpful from Sunday's sermon?
2. Read Matthew 9:35–38 & 1 Timothy 2:1–4. How do these passages reveal God's heart for the lost, and how does that challenge the way you view the people you interact with in your daily life—neighbors, coworkers, strangers, or family members?
 - a. What practical steps can you take this week to cultivate a deeper compassion for the lost that moves you beyond awareness and toward intentional Gospel conversations?
3. Read Jude 23, 1 Peter 3:13-17, & 2 Timothy 2:23–26. What does it look like to urgently call people to repentance and faith in Christ while also displaying Christlike characteristics?
 - a. Who have you seen share the Gospel with both bold conviction and genuine love? What specific attitudes or actions demonstrated their uncompromising commitment to truth and their sincere care for the person hearing it?
 - b. What can you do today to begin imitating their example?
4. Read Acts 17:22-31 & Acts 2:14-41. Both Paul and Peter proclaim the Gospel clearly, even though their messages differ in length and setting. Identify how each passage includes the same core Gospel elements: Background, Bad News, Good News, and the Right Response.
 - a. Read Acts 17:30-31 & 2 Corinthians 5:20. Why must we lovingly call people to respond to the Gospel rather than simply presenting information and leaving the decision unaddressed?
 - b. Who in your LifeGroup could you practice sharing the Gospel with this week? Make plans to both practice together and go evangelize together.
5. Read 1 Corinthians 3:6-8 & Mark 4:14-20. How does it make evangelism more doable knowing that our responsibility is to proclaim the Gospel, not to produce saving faith in others?
 - a. Who is one person God has placed in your life that you need to intentionally share the Gospel with? Share that name with someone in your LifeGroup so they can pray for you and help hold you accountable.
 - b. Read Matthew 28:18-20. In light of Christ's authority and command, how can you get more involved in your church's evangelistic efforts to reach the Hill Country of Texas?

*This Week's
Bible Reading Schedule*

December 28th
Zechariah 7-9 & Revelation 19

December 29th
Zechariah 10-12 & Rev 20

December 30th
Zechariah 13-14 & Rev 21

December 31st
Malachi 1-4 & Revelation 22

January 1st
Genesis 1-2 & Matthew 1

January 2nd
Genesis 3-5 & Matthew 2

January 3rd
Genesis 6-8 & Matthew 3

January 4th
Genesis 9-11 & Matthew 4

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