

LG 12: Acts 17:1-9

Objectives: We want to explore what it means that Jesus is King. We want to practically live our lives in a way that reflects that belief.

Launch

This is our last study in Acts together. What has been one thing that you are taking away from our study?

Explore

Read Acts 17:1-9

What did Paul do in Thessalonica? What verbs describe what He did? (he reasoned from the scriptures, explained and proved that the Christ had to suffer, he proclaimed Jesus, he said that there is another King- Jesus)

- **What do each of these words mean?**
- **What can we learn about Paul's approach to evangelism from these verses?**
- **What was his desired result? Why?**

Why did some of the people get so upset?

Why would people get upset that they were preaching "another King, Jesus"? (Caesar was the absolute sovereign power at the time. Paul was saying that Jesus was now the absolute sovereign power of the universe. At the time people had to follow the rule of Caesar in every area of their life, including their worship. Paul was saying that everyone needed to follow Jesus in every area of his or her life.)

Read Acts 1:3 and Acts 28:30-31.

Acts begins with Jesus teaching about the Kingdom of God and ends with Paul teaching about the Kingdom of God. People that are not followers of Jesus summarize Paul's message in Acts 17 as "saying there is another King, Jesus". This was a main message of the early church.

How would people summarize your message about Jesus?

In other words, what kind of Jesus are you proclaiming to the world? Is He just a means for them to get out of hell? Is He just someone who will make his or her life better? Or is He all of those as well as the King of the Universe who deserves our whole lives?

What could it look like for Jesus to be King of your life?

Psychologists identify at least 4 "drives" that motivate us (Comfort, Approval, Control and Power).

Which of these get in the way of you allowing Jesus to be "King" of your life? How?

We will worship what we adore the most. To allow Jesus to be "King" we will need to change what we worship.

Apply (at least 15 minutes!)

- What area of your life do you have a hard time submitting to Jesus the King?
- What can we do to help one another follow worship Jesus as King?
- Pray for the specific things mentioned.

Announcements

- It would be good to have some sort of plan as a Life Group to pursue Christ over break. Maybe you could read the same book of the Bible and talk about it once or twice over break.
- Challenge to Christmas Conference.