



## KIDS FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE for Sept 18th - Sept 24th

### Acts In 30 Week 17: Paul In Athens - Jesus Is King!

#### Family Activity: Debate Team

To show how Paul had to do quite a bit of public speaking while on his journeys, we're going to play a debate game. Take a second to write down some silly debate questions, the sillier the better!  
I.e. "why are red Starburst's the best flavor," or "why is Universal Studios better than Disney," or "why is pineapple on pizza a great pizza topping." Once that's done, select someone who is going to present a 30 second "case" FOR that topic. Next, select someone who is arguing AGAINST that topic. It's important to remember that whether the person agrees with what side they are arguing is irrelevant in this game. Once both sides have had a turn. The rest of the group will vote for who they agree with most. This game gives some firsthand experience for what it would be like being Paul and having to speak publicly about their beliefs.

#### FOCUS: Acts 17:1-9

#### Paul's Preaching Provokes Jealousy

**REFLECT** — Paul and Silas continue to preach all over the world! Over the span of 3-weeks, Paul and Silas presented a good "case" before the Jews and Greeks at the local synagogue and many people believed came to believe in Jesus. As usual, whenever Paul and Silas started to make an impact, someone would rise up and spread lies about what they were saying. Their efforts were fueled by jealousy!

**Q1 - How would you describe jealousy and how it feels? The *jealous men* were saying Paul and Silas were declaring there was "another king," who are they talking about and why did they think it was a bad thing?**

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#### FOCUS: Acts 17:10-15

#### The Bible Is Our Guide

**REFLECT** — The Jews and Greeks in Berea were eager to hear what Paul and Silas had to say when they arrived. They were very intentional about finding everything Paul and Silas said in the scriptures for themselves. So, what Paul was preaching was so close to what the Bible says it made it easier for the Jews and Greeks to believe him. He clearly wasn't making anything up.

**Q2 - Why is it important to read the Bible for yourself? If someone is preaching about Jesus, does that mean everything they're saying is correct? How can we make sure the things we hear about Jesus are true?**

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#### FOCUS: Acts 17:16-27

#### Paul's Heart Is Burdened and Takes Action

**REFLECT** — Paul and Silas, finally, made it to Athens, one of the largest and most powerful cities in the world. In Athens, everyone believed that there were many gods but they hadn't heard about Jesus, yet. As Paul walked through the city, his heart was burdened because he saw all the idol statues scattered throughout the city. Paul got an audience with the *smartest* people in the city who loved to hear new ideas. Paul began to explain that there is only one true God and that He's closer to us than we think.

**Q3 - What are some things that burden your heart the way Paul's heart was burdened for the people of Athens?**

**Paul's way of helping was by reasoning with people who would listen to him; what can you do to help the world around you, whether, small or large?**

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#### FOCUS: Acts 17:28-34

#### Paul Speaks To the Areopagus

**REFLECT** — Paul was in a pretty intimidating position. Surrounded by a large crowd of people who didn't think like him and didn't believe in Jesus. Paul did not waiver in his message that Jesus is the creator of world and that he was asking everyone to repent. Paul was understanding that the people were hearing his message for the first time but he also spoke the truth.

**Q4 - How would you have acted in Paul's situation? Explain. Do you find it hard to tell others about Jesus, what are some of your complications? Have you ever had to tell someone something really hard and you didn't want to? How did it go?**



