


exploreGod: Is There a God?

Acts 17:16-34

Brandon Lauranzon, April 22 & 23, 2017

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read Acts 17:16-34. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Who is someone you would like to bring to the *exploreGod* series? Which sermon/question are you looking forward to hearing the most? Have you ever struggled with the question, "Is there a God"?
- 2 What was your one main/big takeaway from the sermon? How would you summarize the main theme of the sermon in one phrase or sentence?

IS THERE A GOD?: THE EVIDENCE

- 3 *Worship*. What did Brandon mean when he said, "Everyone is a worshiper"? How is that evidence for God? How would you respond to someone who says, "I don't have any idols – I don't have any shrines in my house!" What do you spend your time thinking about? What do you spend your money on? What do you have to or have or couldn't imagine living without? How is the answer to those questions your idol?

- 4 *Creation*. Read Psalm 19:1-2. What aspect(s) of creation speaks most powerfully to you about the existence of God? What is meant by the “fine tuning of the universe”?
- 5 *Providence*. Brandon said, “Nothing random has ever happened to you.” Do you believe that? How have you seen God’s hand in your life, in the good and the bad, the small and the large?
- 6 *Jesus and the Resurrection*. Why is the resurrection the linchpin for Christianity? Discuss the following quote: “We are not given an airtight argument, we are given an airtight person.”

IS THERE A GOD?: THE RESPONSE

- 7 What were the three responses to the Apostle Paul’s evangelism in Athens? Describe each one.
- 8 What was the point of the *Finding Dory* clip?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?