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March 8, 2026

Acts 17:22-31 (ESV)



THE GOSPEL FOR EVERY NATION



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The Gospel for Every Nation

"And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth..."

1. God's Plan Was Always Global

- Genesis 12:2–3
- Isaiah 49:6
- Matthew 28:19–20
- John 3:16

2. The Gospel Crosses Cultural Boundaries

- Acts 17:22–41

3. The Gospel Speaks to the Human Heart

- Romans 3:23
- Acts 17:30–31

4. The Gospel Creates One New People

- Ephesians 2:14–16
- Revelation 7:9

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" Matthew 28:19

REACH ♦ CONNECT ♦ GROW ♦ SEND

Small Group Discussion Guide

The Gospel for Every Nation

Getting Started

Think about a time when you traveled somewhere with a different culture, language, or customs. It does not need to be outside the US.

- What differences stood out most to you?

- After spending time there, what similarities did you notice about people?

Digging Deeper (Read Acts 17:22–31)

1. The Gospel Was Always Meant for Every Nation

Paul's message in Athens reflects a truth that runs through the entire Bible - God's plan has always included the nations.

- What parts of Paul's message in Acts 17 show that God is Lord over all people, not just one group?

- Why do you think it matters that God "made from one man every nation of mankind" (v. 26)?

- How does this challenge the way people sometimes view themselves as superior or more important than others?

- Where do you see God's heart for the nations elsewhere in Scripture?

2. The Gospel Crosses Cultural Boundaries

Paul speaks to a culture very different from his own, yet he still proclaims the same truth about God and Jesus.

- What differences do you notice between Athens and Paul's Jewish background?

- How does Paul begin the conversation with the Athenians (vv. 22–23)?

- What does Paul affirm about their culture? What does he challenge?

- What can we learn from Paul about sharing the Gospel with people who think very differently from us?

3. The Gospel Speaks to the Human Heart

Cultures may look very different on the outside, but the human heart is remarkably similar everywhere.

- What universal realities about humanity does Paul describe in verses 24–29?
- Why does Paul eventually call everyone to repent (v. 30)?
- Why do you think the message of sin, forgiveness, and reconciliation resonates with people across cultures?
- Where do you see these same heart-level needs in people around you?

4. The Gospel Creates One New People

The Gospel doesn't just save individuals. It creates a new family made up of people from every nation.

- How does Paul describe humanity's shared origin and accountability before God (vv. 26, 30–31)?
- How does the Gospel break down barriers that normally divide people?
- Read Revelation 7:9. What does this picture of heaven tell us about God's ultimate plan for the nations?

Making It Real

The Gospel transcends culture because it speaks to the deepest need of every human heart.

- Is it ever intimidating to share Jesus with people who have wildly different experiences and backgrounds than you? Where do you see opportunities to share Christ with people from different backgrounds or experiences?
- What is one step you could take this week to pray for or support the spread of the Gospel to the nations?

Resources:

The Missionary Movement in Christian History | Andrew F. Walls

The Message of Acts | John Stott

The Book of the Acts (NICNT) | F. F. Bruce