

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Acts Series

These questions are for the **October 4, 2020** sermon, "An Earlier On-Ramp." Please read the sermon passage (Acts 17:22-34) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

IN A WORLD OF COMPETING SUBSTITUTION PLANS, WE EMPHASIZE THAT . . .

1. God is the Creator of the universe. (24)
 - a. Utilize one of these three on-ramps . . .
 - i. Redemption: For the one asking, "How do I get repaired?"
 - ii. Depravity: For the one asking, "What is really wrong with this world?"
 - iii. Creation: For the one asking, "Who is God?"
 - b. Understanding God the Creator will pave the way toward the cross of Jesus.
2. God is the Provider of all life. (25)
3. God is the Ruler of all nations. (26-28)
 - a. The human race is one, has one father (Adam) and exists for God's pleasure.
 - b. God raises up and deposes nations for his purposes. Let us hope in Him.
4. God is the Source of the resurrection. (29-31)
 - a. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, the "times of ignorance" are over.
 - b. All people everywhere are commanded (not invited) to repent, believing Jesus.
5. God is the Focus of all responses. (32-34)
 - a. Some will mock. Some will wait.
 - b. But some will believe on Jesus.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We discussed three on-ramps in entering conversations and steering them toward God. In a godless generation, we will spend more and more time on the "Creation" on-ramp with unbelievers. Talk about situations in which you have successfully entered a conversation using the "Creation" on-ramp. What questions do you have about this on ramp?
2. Based on #3, above: Do you talk more about the politics of the US, or the reality that God rules over every nation? Are you hung up on man's kingdoms? Or focused on God's? How can we effectively emphasize what God is doing (his kingdom) through (or despite) earthly kingdoms? How might an attitude of fear about an election decrease the effectiveness of your witness?
3. Based on #4, above: Now that Jesus has risen from the dead, God commands all people everywhere to repent, completely believing (trusting, relying upon, basing our lives on) Jesus. Is this the message of the church? Are you getting better (more skillful) at presenting Christ?
4. Based on #5, above: It's not up to you convert a soul to Jesus. A conversion to Jesus is always a miracle from God by the Holy Spirit. Are you faithful to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen again? Do you take it personally when someone rejects Jesus? Do you take too much pride in yourself when someone comes to repentance? How can we pray for you?