

Message Notes | Easter

Begin with Easter

Acts 17:16-31

→ there's a reality that every person will experience

**#1 We all have a _____ that
no _____ can fill.**

→ Athens was a very "religious" place - **vs. 17-18**

→ Paul pointed to an event - **vs. 18**

#2 _____ with _____.

→ Paul tells the Athenians to repent - **vs. 30-31**

**#3 _____ fills the _____.
_____ is the _____.**

→ today we celebrate

Group Questions | Easter

Begin with Easter

Acts 17:16-31

1. What are some things that people commonly chase hoping they will make them happy or fulfilled? What are the results?
2. Why do you think people keep going back to the things that don't fully satisfy?
3. **Read Acts 17:16-18.** What stands out to you about the people in Athens?

How does it compare with how people approach spirituality today?
4. **Read Acts 17:22-31.** What is different about Paul's message compared to the philosophies and ideas of Athens? (What does he base his message on? And how is that different than the approach of the Athenians?)
5. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:17-21.** Why is the event of Jesus' resurrection such a central focus of the Christian faith?
6. The sermon said, "Jesus fills the void. Easter is the proof." How does the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus speak into the sense of emptiness that we can feel?

What does it offer that other things don't?
7. What's one area of your life where focusing on Jesus can help fill a void that you've been feeling?

Is there a way that this group can help support you in that?

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→ there's a reality that every person will experience

#1 We all have a spiritual void that no earthly thing can fill.

→ Athens was a very "religious" place - **vs. 17-18**

→ Paul pointed to an event - **vs. 18**

#2 Begin with Easter.

→ Paul tells the Athenians to repent - **vs. 30-31**

#3 Jesus fills the void. Easter is the proof.

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Bible Reading for Today

Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ 'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

²⁹ "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."