

Sermon Discussion Guide:

Are You a Berean?

Sunday, June 11, 2023

Scripture: **Acts 17:10–15**

Series: **The Spirit & The Church**

OVERVIEW

What is truth? Eventually, this timeless question faces everyone. Whether conscious of the process or not, each person builds their life upon a set of guiding principles. For the reformed Christian, all truth necessary for our salvation and spiritual life can be found in Scripture (*sola Scriptura*). When we choose to accept the absolute truth of God's Word we come to see that **the Scriptures are God's gift to mankind leading us to blessing in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Psalm 1, 2:10-12; 1 Peter 1:23-25; Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4, 7-24-27; John 1:45, 5:39, 45-46; Luke 24:25-27; Hebrews 1:2; 2 Timothy 3:16

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Reaction to God's Word generally falls into 3 categories: belief, non-belief but eagerness for more, and non-belief with resistance and opposition. On your Christian journey, which of these categories have you found yourself in? Has it been a linear progression or do you move back and forth between categories?
2. Do you—like the Bereans—receive God's Word with eagerness, or is it more difficult to stay engaged? Discuss reverence for God's Word and reverence for God. Does one lead to the other? Can you have one without the other? Are you lacking in one or both?
3. The Bereans examined the Scriptures daily to discern the truth of what they experienced. Is this practice a hallmark of your life? If not, then what do you turn to for truth? What would it look like in your life to submit more fully to the authority of God's Word?
4. While the Bible certainly provides a solid foundation for living, its primary message is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In what ways has God's Word brought you face-to-face with Jesus? How has your submission to Christ's lordship been strengthened or challenged this year?
5. In the Thessalonians and the Bereans of Acts 17, we are given two examples of how one can receive and react to the Word of God. What are some similarities between these two groups? What are the differences in how each group dealt with the Scriptures?
6. With all that you have learned through meditation on Acts 17:10-15 and discussion of the sermon, do you live like a Berean? If so, then praise God for His faithfulness and provision. If not, then what steps can you take to live life in the presence, under the authority, and to the glory of God (*Coram Deo*)?