

# 2024 - Family Devo

## Aug 11 - a



### READ: Acts 17:26-34

**Main Idea:** Paul preaches to the people of Athens, telling them that there is a God who created all mankind from one man, and this God wants us to reach out to him in faith although ironically, he is not far from any of us. Paul plants the seeds of truth about God's loving care over us, while at the same time the fact that God gives us a choice to believe or deny him. Paul also tells them a day is coming when God will judge us for our decision.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** A lot of people have a big misunderstanding about God. They know God planned their existence and has a purpose for their lives. But they have the wrong idea that every detail of life is preplanned. They think they have no choice. In fact, the Bible teaches the exact opposite. Yes, God has a plan and a purpose for your life, but it's not automatic. You can miss it. That's because God won't force you to enjoy the plan he has for you. He gives you the choice to accept or reject his salvation. He gives you the choice to obey or disobey his directions. He gives you the choice to follow or ignore the purpose for which you were created. Far too many people miss the purpose of their life because of their poor choices.

**Teen:** Does God give us a choice to follow Him or not? Is that choice solely ours to make? Will we answer for our decision? What decision does God want us to make? How do you know that's what he wants?

**Adult:** These listeners were not Jews. Paul didn't preach to them as Stephen preached to the Jews In Jerusalem. What does this teach you about talking with unbelievers/searchers? If you were to have a conversation with someone who didn't know much about God and a second one with a believer, how would you approach them? How could you make it a better discussion in both cases?

### PRAY

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### MEMORIZE

**Isaiah 26:3 (ESV)**  
**You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.**



# 2024 - Family Devo

## Aug 11 - b



### READ: Acts 18:1-17

**Main Idea:** Paul goes to Corinth and each sabbath he tries to persuade the Jews in their synagogue that Jesus was the Christ. Most of the Jews there rejected him and Paul becomes very frustrated. However soon in a vision God tells him not to be afraid but to keep preaching in that town because many people there were God's people. As a result, Paul stays a year and a half and converts many to the Lord's church.

### DISCUSS

**Children:** Why won't they listen?! It can be upsetting when you're trying to communicate with someone, but you know that what you are saying is "going in one ear and out the other." You might be offering advice, or giving instructions on how to complete a task, but the other person has made up their mind already, or thinks that their way is the best way and just won't listen. When that happens, you can either throw your hands up in the air and walk away, or be patient and make the effort to ensure that they do eventually take time to hear you.

**Teen:** How does fear prevent us from being effective messengers of God? Do you ever have reservations about sharing the Word? If so, what helps you get past the fear so you can speak boldly about Jesus?

**Adult:** Have you ever wanted to have a direct message from God, much like Paul's vision or Old Testament messages to the patriarchs? Have you ever tried to make a difficult decision and you wanted God to just tell you what to do? Did you need encouragement? Why would that direct communication have been helpful? How did you get beyond that? Did you ever get peace with the decision/difficult situation? When did you get that peace? If you didn't get peace, how did you move on?

### PRAY

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### MEMORIZE

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