

What was the response to Paul's message? Would you call his efforts a success? How was Dionysius' conversion significant?

What motivates you take opportunities to share with others about Jesus? What obstacles do you need to overcome in order to be more effective in doing so?

REFLECT

It is currently widely accepted that one person should not impose his/her religion on another person. Do you agree? If not, how do you overcome that thinking? What ways have you found to share your faith with relevance and respect?

RESPOND

Impact List: Write down the names of a couple people God has put in your life that need to know Him. Form a list so the group can pray in unity for them. Close by praying that God will:

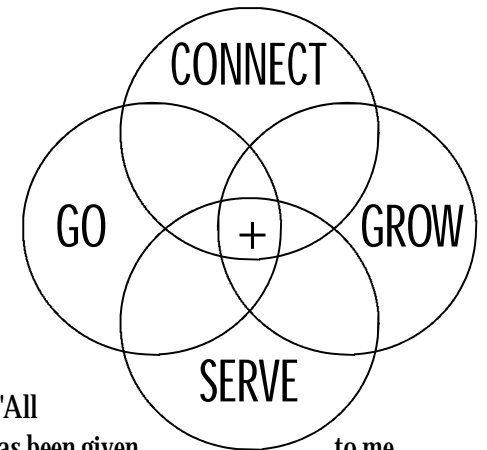
- Reveal to you anything (idols, ideas) that keep them from coming to Him
- Open their hearts to Jesus
- Provide opportunities to speak and show God's greatness and grace.



OUTLOOK
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Disciple development includes developing more and more disciples.



We are going...

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

We go because we are sent (Sent people who don't go are disobedient.) and because there is so much at stake (We understand why going is a must.).

Acts 26:17-18

I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

with relevance...

1 Corinthians 9:22

...I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

+ We are flexible.
+ We do Christ's work and proclaim His Word in a way that's seen and heard.

Matthew 25:34-46 (page

...and joy.

1 Thessalonians 5:16

Rejoice always...

+ We have fun.
+ We know the Christian life is an exciting adventure.

Nehemiah 8:10

Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Frederick Beuchner
To find your mission in life is to discover the intersection between your heart's deep gladness and the world's deep hunger.

onward with joy and relevance

LIFE GROUP STUDY

RELATE

What do you like best about Thanksgiving?

Which current non-Christian beliefs or practices concern you enough that you have considered taking action personally to address them? Why is it important to you?

What principle, insight or idea from this sermon was especially important for you?

READ

Acts 17:16-33; Colossians 4:5

What troubled Paul as he waited in Athens? What actions did he take as a result?

Paul debated the Epicureans and Stoics, whose philosophies were dominant at the time. Check your Bible's notes for background on each. What were their basic tenets? Do either still have influence today?

In what ways did Paul make his message about Jesus relevant to the Athenians who were listening? How did he challenge their beliefs? What part of the message caused the most difficulty?

What does Paul focus most on in his message? Does he talk much about Jesus? Why do you think that is?