

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

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## The Church is Provoked to Action

Acts 17

### River Ridge Core Value:

### AN EMPTY SEAT IS A SERIOUS THING

#### Getting Started:

1. If someone made a statue of you, what pose would be most appropriate? What inscription?
2. What stood out to you most from this message? Were there any questions that you had after listening to Andy's message?

#### Digging Deeper:

3. **Read Acts 17:16-34.** Summarize it in your own words. What stands out?
4. To be noticed by the Greek philosophers of Athens, how extensive was Paul's activity?
5. What did the philosophers know about Christianity previously?
6. What does Paul emphasize about God to them?
7. How does Paul use their own culture and ideas to help them see the weaknesses in the way they relate to deity?
8. Andy said, "Paul was provoked." What provokes you spiritually about the area in which you live?
9. What specific needs do you see? What do you feel like God is calling you to do about it?
10. Paul uses idols and Greek poetry as points of contact with these people. What could you use as a point of contact with people today in your efforts to relate the Gospel?

#### Next Steps:

11. Andy said, "the Gospel never changes, but how we present it may change." What does that mean to you? How do you need to be equipped in light of that phrase?
12. We need to be confident in Jesus alone, but we need to be prepared to change when necessary. Are there some areas we need to change as a Ridge Group in order to open the Gospel message up for others?

#### Prayer:

Pray for God's direction in your life to be confident in what is essential but hold with open hands that which isn't, and that God would use you in someone's life this week to make the Gospel known.