



A Noble Reception | Week of February 7-13, 2022

Welcome (5-10 minutes):

Take some time to get to know one another and hear how each other's week has been going.

Ice-Breaker Questions (5-10 minutes):

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Opening—Please have someone from the group read aloud:

From Pastor Dan: In John 6:44, Jesus says, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him and I will raise him up on the last day." Here, we see a great paradox within the Gospel. We do not pursue Christ so much as He pursues us. The greatest example of this truth, is Jesus' coming in human form 2,000 years ago, living a sinless life, and dying on the cross for our salvation. (Romans 5:8, 1 John 4:19).

Nevertheless, each person has the responsibility to either accept Christ or reject Him. And each of us will be held accountable before God based on the decision that we made during our lifetime. (John 14:6, 2 Cor. 5:10).

What is your perspective of God? Do you think of Him as the one who pursues you? How does this help you better understand his love?

Read This Week's Passages

Acts 17:10-15



Read Acts 17:10-11

In this passage, Paul and his companions continue to Berea where the Jews in the synagogue give them a noble reception and show an **eagerness** to hear more about Jesus.

An eager, searching heart is what God desires from us. What do these other Bible passages teach us about eagerly seeking the Lord: Jeremiah 29:13, Proverbs 8:17, and Hebrews 11:6?

What is the difference between eagerness and hype? People always have an "object" of their eagerness ... something that they are pursuing. What are the Bereans pursuing in this passage?

Read Acts 17:11

Also in verse eleven, we see that the Bereans were **examining** the Scriptures daily to see if what Paul was saying was true.

Why is it so important to check things out for yourself? What are the dangers of accepting new teachings at face value? How do you distinguish truth from opinion? Does truth ever change? What method do most people use to determine truth?

Read and discuss these scriptures: Psalm 119:105, 1 Peter 3:15, and 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

Read Acts 17:12

In this verse, we see that many of the Jews as well as Greek men and women put their faith in Christ and were **evangelized**.

Pastor Dan made a statement this past Sunday saying, "Eagerness + Examination = Evangelization." What are the dangers of only being eager (Matthew 13:20-21)? What are the dangers of only examining the Bible (Matthew 23:1-4).

What roles do belief and faith play in our salvation (Romans 10:10-11)? What roles do belief and faith play in our daily walk with Jesus (Proverbs 3:5-6)?