



**Bible Story:** I Want to Know What Love Is (Paul in Athens/Unknown God) • **Acts 17:16-34**

**Bottom Line:** You can help others know Jesus.

**Memory Verse:** *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.* Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)

**Life App:** Faith—Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see

## 1. Bible Story Review

**What You Need:** Bibles

**What You Do:**

**Read:** **Acts 17:16-34**

- **Discuss:** Do you have to have all the answers in order to help someone know Jesus? (No!) Who can you ask or talk to if you need help? (Parents, small group leader, pastor, other trusted adults who follow Jesus)
- **Ask: [Younger Kids]**
  - Did Paul ever tell people about Jesus? (Yes)
  - Did everyone Paul told about Jesus believe in Him? (No)
  - Did Paul and his friends ever have to leave a city because the people didn't want them to tell others about Jesus? (Yes)
  - Does God love people only if they believe in Him? (No)
  - Did some of the people in the town of Athens worship statues of animals and other things called idols? (Yes)
  - Did Paul tell the people of Athens how to make yummy mac and cheese? (No)
  - Did Paul tell the people of Athens that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead? (Yes)
  - Did Paul talk about Jesus to a man named Roger Lee Corn-Biscuit? (No)
  - Did Paul talk about Jesus to a man named Dionysius? (Yes)
  - Did Dionysius become a Jesus follower? (Yes)
  - Do we tell people about Jesus to help them smell better? (No)
  - Are there people you can tell about Jesus? (Yes)
- **Ask: [Older Kids]**
  - What stood out to you the most about today's story?
  - Was there anything confusing or something you didn't understand about the story?
  - How did Paul do more than just tell people about Jesus? How did he help others know Jesus?
  - How can you help others know Jesus?

- **Point** out that the way Jesus-followers treat people isn't normal . . . God tells us to put others first (**Philippians 2:3-4**, **1 Corinthians 10:24**, **Romans 12:10**), and to consider others better than ourselves . . . that's the opposite of human nature! What kind of attention does this selfless, kind behavior get from others? Why?

## 2. Discussion Questions

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

**Ask:**

- When someone treats you badly, what does it make you think? How does it make you feel?
- What about when someone is kind without at all expecting anything in return? What does that feel like?
- Why does putting others first stand out so much or seem so different from what's "normal"?
- How does treating someone well help them know Jesus?
- What's one way you could SHOW someone Jesus?

*[Make it Personal] (Give an age-appropriate example of a time when you helped someone else know Jesus through your actions. Maybe you were kind to someone who isn't always kind to you. Maybe you forgave someone even when you didn't feel like it.)*

## 3. Lesson Recap and Prayer Journal:

**What You Need:** Prayer journal, something to write with

**What You Do:**

- As a family, **add to your prayer journal** or make a prayer journal if you have not already done so.
  - The Bible teaches us that the "the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective" (**James 5:16b**). We are encouraging you to make a family prayer journal. It can be as fancy or as simple as you want. An example is provided on our Kids at The Heights Facebook Page! A prayer journal can be a tool to record your prayer requests and thanksgivings. It can also help you grow your faith as you keep a record of how the Lord answer your prayers.
- Encourage kids to share one thing they know to be true about God; something that they could share with someone else.
- Close in prayer, asking God to give them courage like Paul to share this knowledge with others, remembering that **[Bottom Line] you can help others know Jesus.**

**What You Say:**

"The Bible tells us that God loves all people everywhere. That means EVERYONE. Short, tall, large, small; God made each person who lives and He wants us to know how to be His friend forever. That's why He sent His Son, Jesus, to Earth. Jesus came to Earth long ago and showed us how to know and follow God. When He died on the cross, He took the punishment we deserve for all the bad things we have done. He didn't stay dead, though. He came back to life and lives in heaven with God. Who do you know that you can tell about God's love and share the story of Jesus? Remember, **[Bottom Line] you can help others know Jesus.**"

"Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus! We are so thankful that You are not an unknown God to us! You've given us Your Word and You sent Jesus. We want everyone around us to know just how much You love them, too. Give us the courage like Paul to tell others about You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."