

Taking the Leap to a Rock Solid Faith

Analyzing Faith to Death

The Bible says faith is the assurance of things unseen, but assurances aren't always enough. Too often we try and figure faith out ... we probe, wonder, poke, and prod and too often we analyze faith to death. This week, we'll take a look at three responses to an invitation to faith.

Acts 17:16–34

1. The _____ are experienced as just a part of life.
2. We can't use _____ to cure culture's ills.
3. The solution to sin takes an _____ solution.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- Sign me up for the Directions Discipleship Course
- I'll share my experience of church with _____ people this week

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper and Going Further

People respond to faith in a variety of ways. Some embrace it right away. Some are more cautious and engage in due-diligence. And some scoff at it completely. In this passage, we see no fewer than five different responses to faith across three different cities. Learning how people respond to faith will help us work through our own response – and makes us aware of how others might respond when we share.

1. Read Acts 17:1–9. What two responses to the invitation of faith do you see in this passage?

2. Why do you think the “others” were jealous?

3. Read Acts 17:10–15. Why were the Bereans considered more noble than those in Thessalonica?

4. Why do you think so many people in Berea chose to become followers of Jesus?

5. Read Acts:16–34. In what places did Paul begin his faith-sharing campaign in Athens?

6. What was Paul teaching that caught the interest of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers?

7. What was the philosopher’s response to the gospel message?

8. Paul taught a great crowd of people in the Areopagus. What were the three responses?

9. When your faith is challenged, how do you respond?

10. How will you respond when someone “pushes back” when you share your faith?
