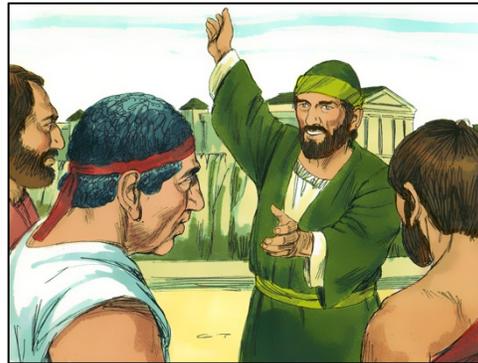


Video:
<https://biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Unknown-God-Ha>
by BibleStoriesOnLine



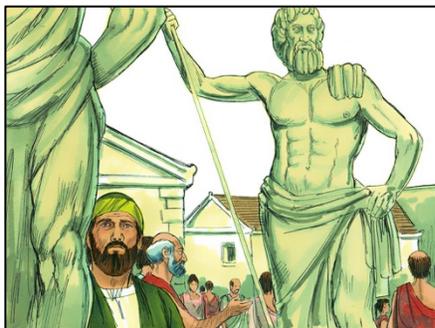
Lesson #13a: PAUL PREACHES ON MARS HILL IN ATHENS (ACTS 17:16-34)



The Bible says that Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey continued. He traveled to Athens, a big city in Greece.

Athens was a city that was full of many idols and temples to these idols. It was a place where people came to worship idols but also to listen to teachers and learn new things.

When Paul arrived in Athens he looked around and saw many idols. People were worshiping these idols instead of worshiping the True and Living God.

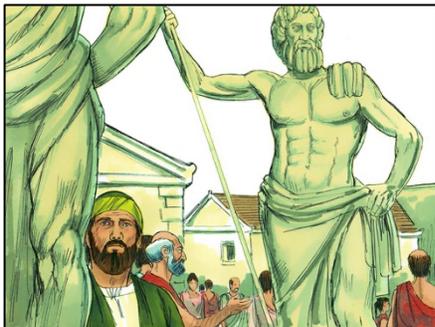
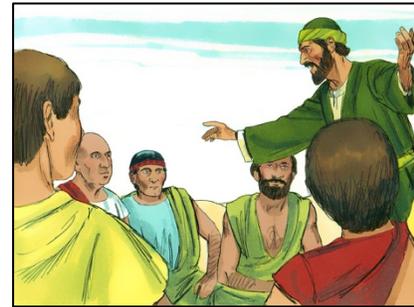


Paul was very sad to see this, and he wanted to tell the people about the real God and his son, Jesus.



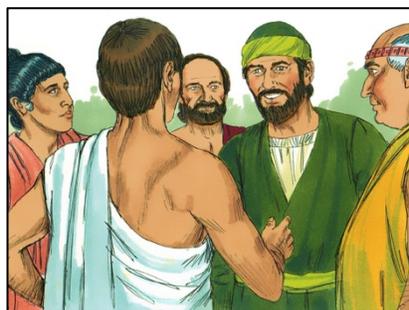
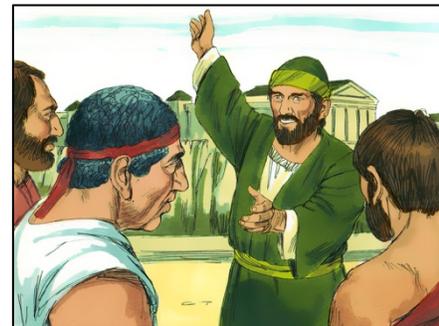
The first thing Paul did was to go to the synagogue and talk to the Jews about Jesus. Then he went to the agora. The agora is a marketplace where people liked to buy and sell food and other things. Paul told people there about God and Jesus.

Some men heard Paul and invited him to join the group that met up on a big rock hill called the Areopagus. That's where a group met together to think and talk about ideas. They asked Paul to tell them about the new ideas he had been talking about.



So, Paul told them that he had been looking at all of the idols. He had even noticed an idol with a sign that said, "TO AN UNKNOWN GOD." Paul said, "I will tell you about the god you don't know. He is the only true God.

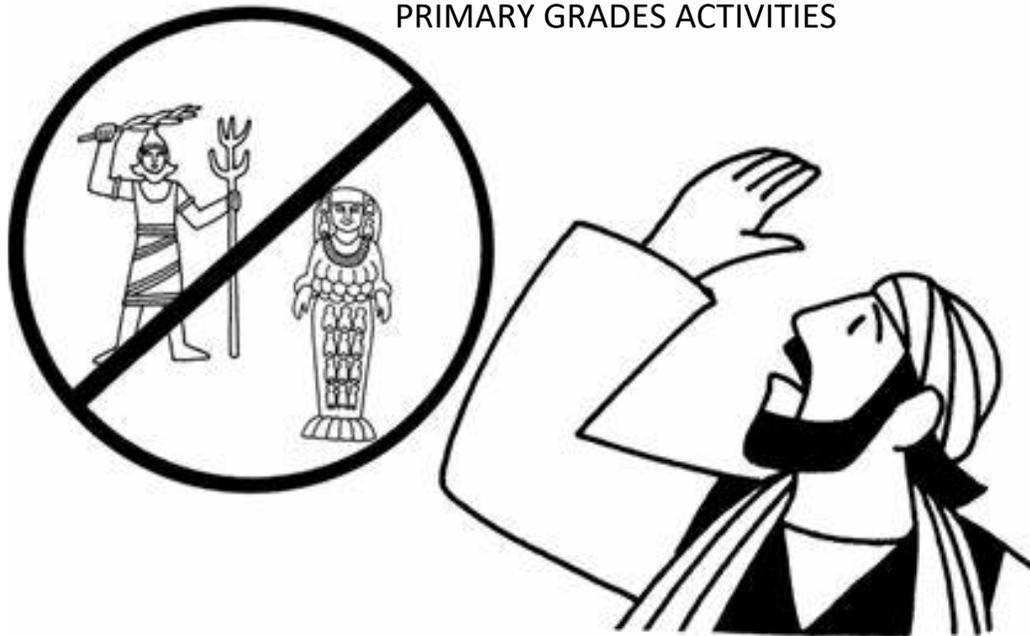
Paul said that all of the idols they were worshipping were made by people. But that didn't make sense. People can't make God. God makes people! Paul then told them that they should stop worshipping idols. God is more important than any person or thing in the world so they should only worship God.



And finally, Paul told them one more very important thing. He told them that Jesus died and that God made him alive again. By doing this God had given them proof that he is real and that this Jesus will one day return to make all things right.

Not very many people in Athens decided to become followers of Jesus. **But a few did.** One was one of the men of the Areopagus and one was an important woman named Damaris. The time came for Paul to leave to go to other cities and tell people about God and Jesus.

PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITIES



BibleWise

Paul's Words

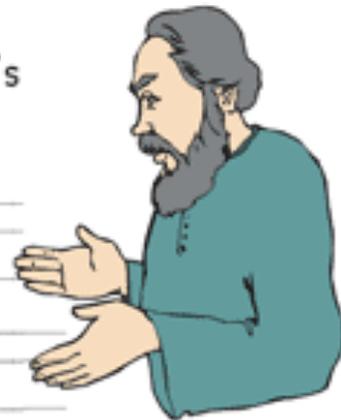
Holy Lands Tour: ATHENS



Trace the words below from Paul's speech to the Athenians.

“For in Him
we live, and
move, and have
our being;”

Acts 17:28

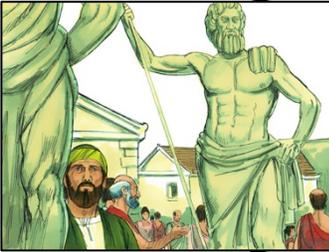


BibleWise.com

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Use your Bible to complete the verses from Acts 17:

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the _____
 and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very .
 _____²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your
 objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an
 _____. So, you are _____
 of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to
 proclaim to you.”



Think About This
How is our world today similar to Athens?

What is so important to *you* that you are tempted to worship it?

Is *that* more important than being Jesus’ disciple?
Talk to God about it!

