

Constantly Searching
Acts 17:10-21

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I. Searching the Scriptures. Acts 17:10-15

What made these Jews more noble?

1. They _____ the Word with all eagerness.
2. They examined the Scriptures _____ to see if these things were so.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

- Be a _____.

II. Searching Elsewhere. Acts 17:16-21

The Epicureans were materialists. Their main focus in life was on the pursuit of _____.

The Stoics were indifferent to pleasure and pain. Their focus was on being _____ - _____.

- *The Epicureans said “_____” and the Stoics said “_____”. (Wiersbe)*

But neither was focused on _____ life.

III. Where Are You Searching?

You can search the _____, or you can search the _____.

Practice the five M's:

1. _____ it. **Psalm 119:11**
2. Meditate on it. **Psalm 1:2**
3. Make _____ with it. **Colossians 3:16**
4. Minister with it. **Hebrews 3:13**
5. _____ it. **1 John 5:3**

“Every day with meekness receive the word of God. That is, every day be in the Bible. Breathe the Bible. Don't try to hold your breath from Monday to Wednesday. Breathe every day.” (John Piper)

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

1. Read **Acts 17:10-15**. Why does **Verse 11** suggest the Bereans were more “noble” than the Jews in Thessalonica? How can we receive the Word of God eagerly in our lives?
2. When looking at **2 Timothy 3:16-17** and **Hebrews 4:12**, what do you think are the benefits that come from studying the Word of God regularly? Why is it important to engage in the study and examination of the Scriptures?
3. Read **Acts 17:16-21**. What do you think it means when it says Paul's spirit was “provoked” when he got to Athens? What is his response to this distress he feels?
4. What is the importance of Paul's decision to not only reason in the synagogues but to take the discussion to the marketplace as well? How is this applicable to our modern lives?
5. How can you receive guidance from God's Word? If you look at John Piper's five M's, what are ways you can put this into practice in your daily life?
6. Read **2 Timothy 3:15**. What does it mean to be wise for salvation? How can you deepen your wisdom regarding Jesus?