

**Right Living  
in a  
Wrong World**

**1. Have some convictions**

## Acts 17:16

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols.

For Paul life revolved around what glorified the Creator not what satisfied the whims and fancies of fallen human beings.

Athens asked What can deity do for me?

Paul asked Why does the Almighty  
even put up with me?

Paul had some beliefs he was  
willing to stand for.  
(Convictions)

# Paul's Convictions

- All are lost in sin without Jesus. (Romans 6:23)
- All are forever saved who know Jesus. (Romans 8:1)
- Jesus makes living and dying all worthwhile.  
(Philippians 1:21-23)
- Believers must live in a manner which honors Jesus.  
(Philippians 1:27)
- Knowing Jesus is nothing to be ashamed of. (Romans 1:16)

Many (not all) people will respect us  
when we are consistent in our  
biblical convictions.

**2. Make some preparation**

## Acts 17:19

Then they took Paul and brought him to a meeting in the Aeropagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?”

Paul knew that opportunities to serve Jesus would come his way and he willingly prepared in advance to seize those opportunities.

Paul learned about God.  
(Galatians 1:3-17)

Paul learned about people.  
(Acts 17:22-23)

Paul wanted to know about many things in order to be able to converse with as many people as possible **about the most important thing** in the universe.

# Two Basic Facts

## Paul Learned about People

- People respond better with right approach.
- People are reached inch by inch not yard by yard.

### 3. Focus on simplicity

## Acts 17:22

Paul stood up in the meeting of the Aeropagus and said, “Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious...”

Paul's words were very logical and  
easy to follow.

Simple is often profound.

# Paul's Six Simple Points

1. God is the creator of the universe (Acts 17:24)
2. He is the ruler of the nations (Acts 17:26)
3. He is the sustainer of life (Acts 17:25)
4. God is not a statue but a Father Who sent His Son to be our Savior (Acts 17:29-30)
5. Jesus proved all this when God raised him from the dead (Acts 17:31)
6. He will one day judge the world (Acts 17:31)

## 2 Corinthians 11:3

But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the **simplicity** and purity of devotion to Christ.

**4. Don't measure success by results**

## Acts 17:32-33

When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.”  
And so Paul left the meeting.

## Acts 17:34

Some men join him and believed, including Dionysius, a member of the council; and there was also a woman named Damarius, and some other people.

Our job is to be involved  
for Jesus.

His job is to take care of  
the results.

**I am just one beggar telling another  
beggar where he can find bread.**

**Billy Graham**

# 1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

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