**The Intellectual Approach to Evangelism: Paul at Mars Hill**

Gleaning Wisdom for Evangelism from Paul’s Address to the Philosophers

**Series:** Evangelism for Everyone #3 South Orlando Baptist Church

**Topics:** World Religions, Atheism, Cults October 9, 2016 **Text:** Acts 17:16-34 Dr. David Crowe

Characteristics - Inquisitive; Analytical; Logical

Weakness - Can get caught up in questions and not get to the Gospel

Examples - William Lane Craig; C.S. Lewis; Josh McDowell; Ravi Zacharias; Lee Strobel

Possible Roles for those who love this approach - Event Counselor; Visitation Leader; New Member Discipler; Sunday School Teacher; Street Survey Leader; Evangelism Trainer.

To utilize the intellectual approach to evangelism....

1. Observe the religious \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of others (16-23)
2. Exploratory Questions of Bill Faye:

Do you have any kind of spiritual beliefs?

To you, who is Jesus?

Do you think there is a heaven or a hell?

If you died tonight, where would you go?

By the way, if what you were believing is not true, would you want to know?

1. Open up with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Existence of God (24-27)
2. The Bible offers four proofs for the existence of God:

1. Creation (Romans 1:19-20; Psalm 19:1-3)

2. Conscience (Romans 2:14-15; Ecclesiastes 3:11)

3. Creeds (2 Timothy 3:16)

4. Christ (John 14:1).

1. Offer quotes that relate to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the audience (28-34)
2. Use books, popular movies, songs on the radio, magazines, current events, etc.

**Application Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today’s message. Use them for personal or family devotions to further dig into God’s word.

1. What distressed Paul about Athens? (17:16)

2. How did Paul address the intellectual pagans? (17:22-23)

3. Why did the Athenians have an altar dedicated to an "unknown god"? (17:23)

4. How did Paul use his knowledge of the Athenians’ "unknown god" to present the true God? (17:23)

5. How did Paul describe God to his hearers? (17:24-25)

6. Why was Paul’s lesson in biblical history a blow to Athenian pride? (17:26)

7. How did Paul use Greek poetry to tell others about Christ? (17:28)

8. How did Paul prove that God was not an idol? (17:29)

9. What were Paul’s concluding remarks? (17:30-31)

10. How did the Greeks respond to Paul? (17:32-34)

11. Who among Paul’s hearers became believers? (17:34)

12. What made Paul well-suited to presenting the gospel to the Athenians?

13. How did Paul tailor his message to the Athenians?

14. What can we learn from Paul’s example here?

15. How should we be flexible in our approach to evangelism?

16. What did Paul emphasize about God that was different from what the Stoics and Epicureans believed?

17. What incorrect views of God are held in our society?

18. How would you judge Paul’s ministry in Athens—as a success or failure? Why?

19. What will help you persevere in your witness when no one seems to care or listen?

20. What is one thing you can do to make the message of Christ understandable to your non-Christian friends and coworkers?