



Grace Assembly Of God

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Acts 17	Title:	Press on with the Gospel!
Author	Ps Peter Lim		
Summary of Chapter	Paul preached the gospel boldly in Thessalonica, Berea, and Athens, and met with 4 different types of responses: hostility, rejection, those who sought clarification, and faith. Yet he pressed on because he knew how God wanted all people to feel their way toward him and find him, and that salvation in Christ is accessible to all.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<i>27 "His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him—though he is not far from any one of us."</i>	<p>There are 2 things we can learn from this. Firstly, our role is to share with others the best way we know how and leave the results to God. Even the great Apostle Paul met with great resistance, but he recognised that the Holy Spirit is the one who ultimately convinces people to accept the gospel. We should not be deterred from sharing just because some do not accept it, because the Bible exhorts us that if we persevere in doing what is good, we will reap a harvest of blessing (Galatians 6:9).</p> <p>I remember trying to bring a friend to church when I was in secondary school. He was skeptical but I continued to befriend him. Almost 15 years later, I bumped into him in an MRT station and realised that he became a believer and was actively involved in missions! He thanked me for reaching out to him. Our role is simply to obey and tell others; God will do the saving work in His perfect time.</p> <p>The second thing we can learn is that we need to choose how we ourselves want to respond to the gospel as well. Yes, we may already be believers, but there are still parts of our lives that need to fully conform to the gospel. The gospel demands total abandonment of oneself to the lordship of Christ. Do we fully apply that into our lives, doubt this requirement or even react in hostility to this truth? Today, may we choose to align ourselves fully to the whole gospel of Jesus Christ and be His witnesses no matter how people may respond.</p>

### APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	How did you respond the first time you heard about the gospel? What does God expect of us as His witnesses? We simply share and allow the Spirit to convince them. What aspects of the gospel do you need to respond positively to?
Youth:	How does it feel when your friends do not consider it cool to be a Christian? How can you get past the discouragement or fear when people respond negatively?
Child:	God is glad when you tell your friends about Jesus and he is not upset even if they do not believe. What can you do when your friends do not want to believe in Jesus even though you have told them about Him?

### PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear heavenly Father, thank You that You desire for all people to seek You and find You. May we be Your witnesses to all those we meet every day, regardless of their responses. Help us to respond to the whole gospel of Christ in obedience.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.