

Sermon Discussion (12/7/2025)

101 #6 / Acts 17:1–4

The church is growing because the disciples can give reasons why people should believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Do you have reasons why you believe that Jesus was the Messiah?

Title: Reason

The Main Question: Why do you think the Christian faith is true?

Points to Consider

1. I think God exists.
2. I think something happened in the first century that changed the world.
3. I think the Bible is true.
4. I think Jesus rose from the dead.

Scripture References:

Acts 17:1–4 NIV

¹ When Paul and his companions had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. ² As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that the Messiah had to suffer and rise from the dead. “This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Messiah,” he said. ⁴ Some of the Jews were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a large number of God-fearing Greeks and quite a few prominent women.

Application Questions

- Why do you believe the Christian faith is true?

Love God / Invitation / Relationship

We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives.

- Read [Acts 17:1-4](#).
- How does “having reasons” for your beliefs affect your ability to receive the love of God?
- How do doubts affect your ability to experience the love of God?

Find Freedom / Learning / Clarity

Freedom is found when we learn a new way to think.

- Having “reasons” can often provide confidence for our beliefs?
- How does being confident affect the freedom we have in our mind?
- How does a lack of confidence produce bondage?

See God / Prayer / Affirmation

It is much easier for us to “see” God when we are communicating with God. Prayer is how we communicate with God.

- Are “reasons” a way for us to see God? Explain.

Experience Healing / Serve Others / Opportunities

The brokenness in our hearts begins to heal as we serve other people.

- Being confident can have a healing effect on our relationship to ourselves. Why is that?
- What kind of effect do doubts produce in us?

Discover Joy / Gratitude / Community

The more grateful we are the more joy we feel.

- When we have reasons for what we think it creates strength, conviction and security. What effect does that have on our gratitude and joy?