

July 4th, What Would God Say To America? Independence Day Message

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

READ Acts 17:24–28 (NIV)

The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'

Why do you think Paul makes the point that God “does not live in temples built by human hands”?

What do you think Paul means when he says “so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him”— what does that have to do with the previous sentence “From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth”?

Paul says, “‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’” How does that fit in with what Paul is saying in this passage?

Why do you think people choose not to seek God, despite him being so close to us all?

Do you think humans can create the perfect world we say we desire on our own?

How is God's plan to make things right in His world beyond what we could ever do apart from Him?

If God is the one making all things new and right, are we to just sit back and do nothing?

READ Jeremiah 9:23–24 (NLT)

“This is what the Lord says: “Don't let the wise boast in their wisdom, or the powerful boast in their power, or the rich boast in their riches. But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the Lord, have spoken!”

Why is it pointless and wrong to boast in one's own wisdom, power or riches?

What are your thoughts on the rest of this passage?