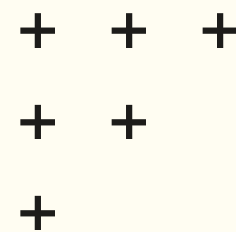


Acts.





Paul in Athens

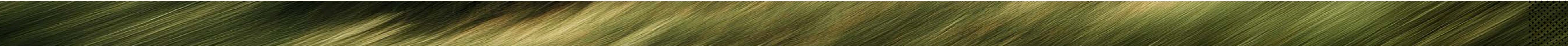
WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID

WHAT PAUL SAID

OUTLINE BY JOHN STOTT



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WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID

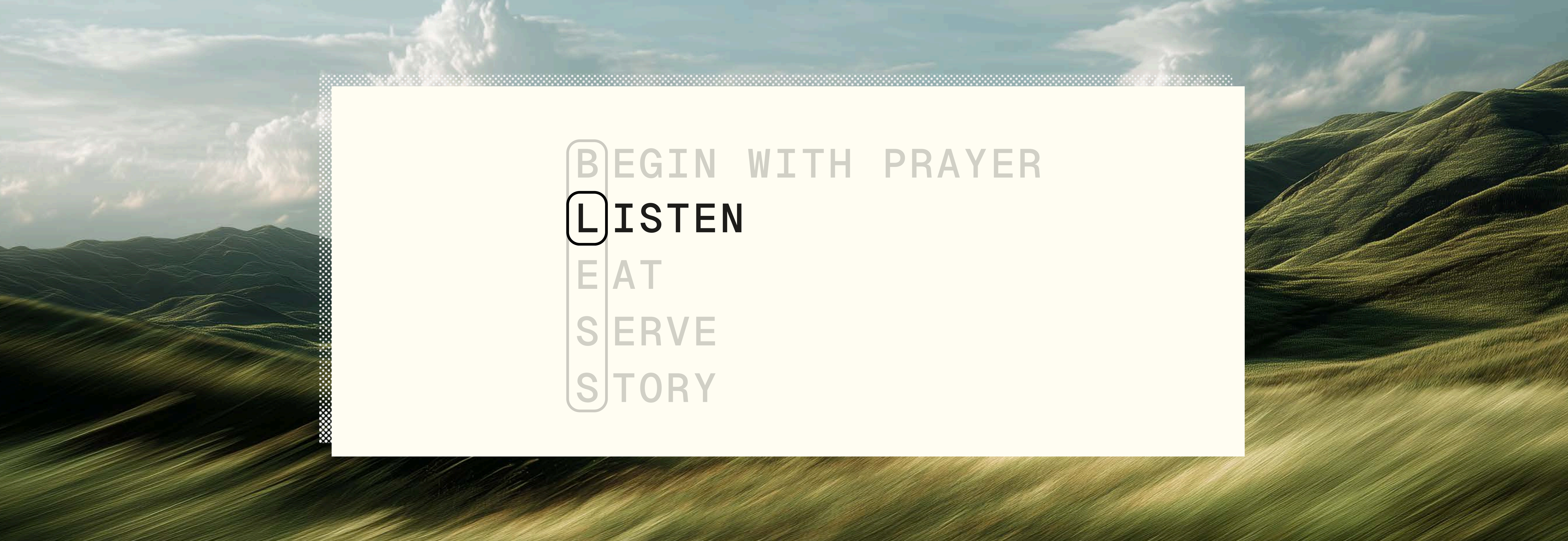
WHAT PAUL SAID

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

ACTS 17:16 NIV

“For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.”

ACTS 17:23a NIV



BEGIN WITH PRAYER
LISTEN
EAT
SERVE
STORY

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WHAT PAUL SAW



WHAT PAUL FELT

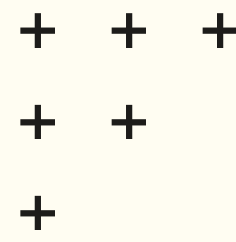
WHAT PAUL DID

WHAT PAUL SAID

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

ACTS 17:16 NIV





WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

→ WHAT PAUL DID

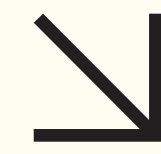
WHAT PAUL SAID

So **he reasoned** in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

ACTS 17:17 NIV



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COLOSSAL STATUE OF A WINGED LION

From the North-West Palace of Ashurnasirpal II,
in modern-day Iraq, dated 883-859 BC

THE BRITISH MUSEUM



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WHAT PAUL SAW

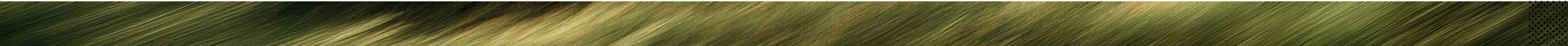
WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID

→ **WHAT PAUL SAID**

Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.”

ACTS 17:22-23 NIV



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WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID

→ **WHAT PAUL SAID**

“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.²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.²⁶ 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.”

ACTS 17:24-26 NIV

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WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID

→ **WHAT PAUL SAID**

“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. ²⁸ ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’”

ACTS 17:27-28 NIV

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WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID



WHAT PAUL SAID

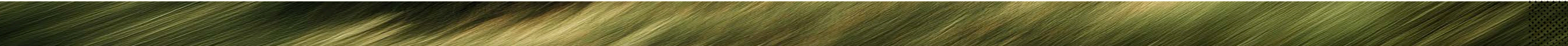
For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

ROMANS 1:21-23 NIV

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But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1 PETER 3:15-16 NIV



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WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID

→ **WHAT PAUL SAID**

“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.²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.²⁶ 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.”

ACTS 17:24-26 NIV

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WHAT PAUL SAW

WHAT PAUL FELT

WHAT PAUL DID



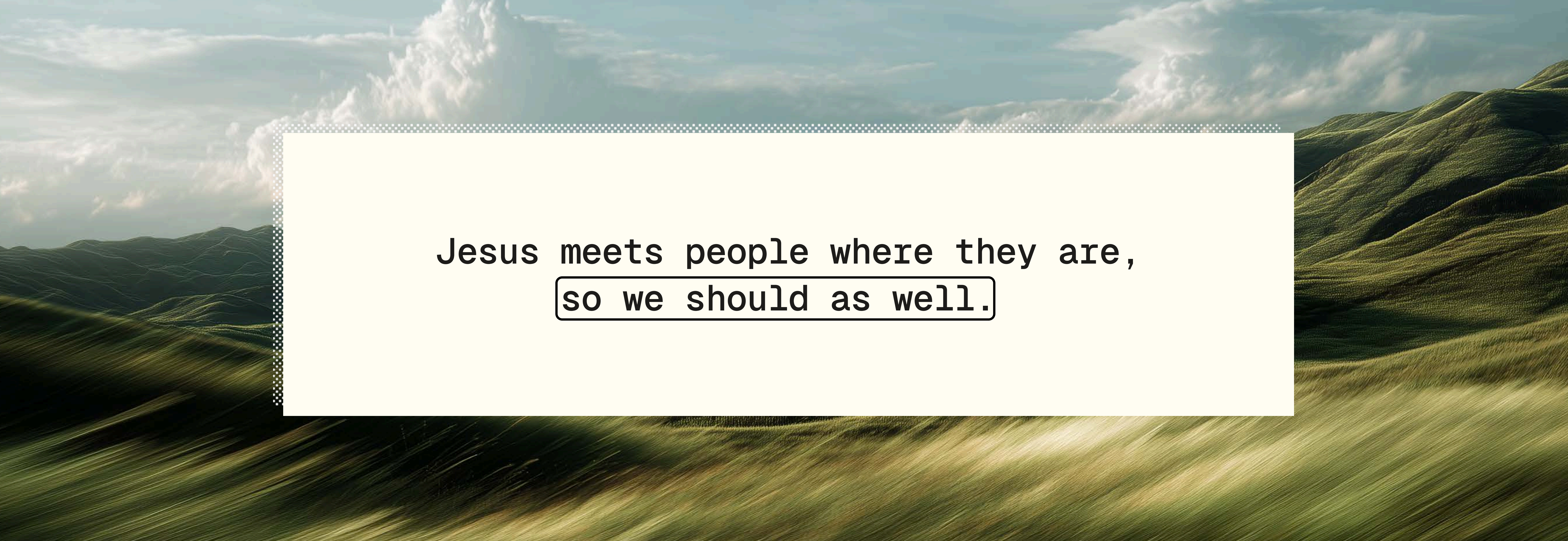
WHAT PAUL SAID

“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. ²⁸ ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’”

ACTS 17:27-28 NIV



Our aim in meeting an unbelieving world
is not to defeat them but to **serve them.**



Jesus meets people where they are,
so we should as well.