

OPEN MINDS

ACTS 17:10-15

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: The Greek word for noble is eugenes. It has the meaning of having great value, such as gold or silver does. Open-minded (NASV) behavior is fair, thoughtful, and highly valued by God. (See ESV Study Bible footnote for Acts 17:11.) Open-mindedness allows the gospel to be proclaimed!

EVERYONE CAN RECEIVE. While looking for the Messiah, the Bereans received with eagerness the message from Paul because they recognized it as coming from God. (**Acts 17:11, I Thessalonians 2:13, Mark 10:13-16, fn 10:14, Romans 10:17-20, fn 10:18-20, John 5:36-40, fn 5:39, 40, II Peter 1:19-21 fn 1:19**) *How do you have an open mind?*

EVERYONE CAN SEARCH. “Luke encourages the searching of Scripture as a pattern for all believers and also gives support to the doctrine of the clarity of Scripture, the idea that the Bible can be understood rightly, not only by scholars but also by ordinary people who read it eagerly and diligently, with conscious dependence on God for help.” ESV Study Bible, footnote for Acts 17:11. (**Acts 17:11, fn 17:11, II Timothy 1:5, fn 1:5, II Timothy 3:14-17, fn 3:16, 17, Psalms 119:11, fn 119:11, Romans 1:16, fn 1:16[1st], fn 1:16[2nd]**) *What was the focus of leadership in the Berean synagogue?*

EVERYONE CAN BELIEVE. In an atmosphere of open-mindedness and fairness, many Bereans believed. They understood that Christ had to suffer and rise again and that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, who fulfilled the Scriptures. (**Acts 17:12, Acts 17:2, 3, fn 17:2, 3, Luke 7:18-22, fn 7:20-22, Romans 10:8-13, fn 10:8-12, Acts 4:12, fn 4:12, John 17:3, fn 17:3**) *If the gospel is to be received with open minds, how is it to be given? Explain your answer from a “Holy Spirit perspective.”*

Pray for one another’s needs.

Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?

