

How I Became a Follower of Jesus Christ

1 Corinthians 1:17–19 - For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

A _____ of becoming a follower of Jesus Christ

1. Paul had a specific _____ - **Acts 17:16** - Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols.

2. Paul took a specific _____ - **Acts 17:17** - So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there.

3. Paul faced a specific _____ - **Acts 17:18** - Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbling wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.

4. Paul is given a specific _____ - **Acts 17:19–21** - And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? ²⁰ For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.”

²¹ Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

5. Paul possessed a specific _____ - **Acts 17:22–23** - So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

6. Paul used a specific _____

a. The argument from _____ - **Acts 17:24–25** - The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

b. The argument from _____ - **Acts 17:26–28** - And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for “ ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, “ ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ ”

c. The argument from _____ - **Acts 17:29** - Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.

d. The argument from the _____ - **Acts 17:30–31** - The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

7. Paul witnesses a specific _____ - **Acts 17:32–34** - Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” ³³ So Paul went out from their midst. ³⁴ But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

See also **Acts 18:1ff** and **1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

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1. The necessity of _____ of the whole person - **Acts 2:36-37** - *Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.*” ³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

2. The necessity of _____ - **Matthew 13:23** - *As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.*”

3. The necessity of God’s _____ - **Ephesians 2:1 & 5**- *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins....⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—*

a. Through the ministry of _____ - **John 1:4–5, 9** - *In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it....⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.*

b. Through the ministry of _____ - **John 6:44** - *No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.*

c. The ministry of the _____ - **1 Peter 1:22–23** - *Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³ since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God...*

d. The ministry of the _____ - **Titus 3:4–6** - *But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior...*

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FOLLOWER OF
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at Calvary Chapel