

KEC ORDER OF SERVICE/SERMON OUTLINE 21st June (KEC MISSIONS SUNDAY - ONLINE)

Before the livestream starts at 9am:

KIDS VIDEO will be made available by 8.30am. This week, we're going to be starting a series on Acts. And today, we're going to discover that the mission of the risen King Jesus cannot be stopped!

Direct link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7jhg79g0K4>

9am – Livestream starts

Livestream link should be available by 8.55am latest.

1. Behold our God! (World edition)

2. Welcome / Call to worship – Psalm 96

3a. Father's Day video

3b. Prayer for fathers

4. Hear from our Mission Partner: Genevieve Wong

5. Missions budget report & pledge cards (Leonard Sia – missions treasurer)

6. Hear from our Mission Partner: Zaung Nan

7. Prayer for our mission partners

8. Bible reading: Acts 17:16-34 (Genevieve Wong)

¹⁶ While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbling trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. ¹⁹ Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?" ²⁰ You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean." ²¹ (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

²² 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.

²⁴ “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. ²⁷ 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.’

²⁹ “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

³² When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, “We want to hear you again on this subject.” ³³ At that, Paul left the Council. ³⁴ Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

SERMON OUTLINE: Making the unknown God known (Acts 17:16-34)

Preferring to remain ignorant

Athens: the place of enlightenment?

- Culture
- Knowledge
- Politics

“You are ignorant” (v. 23, 30)

Our world – the same, basic problem remains

If the world does not know God, what should be our response?

1. DISTRESS: when the world does not know God

What Paul saw

How Paul reacted

What do we see when we look at our city or another country?

Why don't people know God?

Idolatry & Ignorance

Why Paul is distressed/going to speak up

- i. Compassionate for those living in darkness
- ii. Zealous for God's glory

“I could not endure existence if Jesus were to be always thus dishonoured.” (Henry Martyn)

2. DESIRE: ...to make the unknown God known

What Paul does (v. 17, 18, 19)

A masterclass in evangelism (v.22-23)

Establishes an initial point of contact

Confirms their ignorance from within their cultural environment

*Connects and corrects

What does Paul proclaim?

- i. This one true God is the Creator
- ii. This one true God is the Sustainer
- iii. This one true God is Sovereign

One reason

3. DETERMINATION: ...for the man God has appointed is coming

One response: repent!

One appointed person: the Lord Jesus Christ

One definitive proof: the resurrection

Crossing the 'painline'

RESPONSE SONG: How great thou Art (with Alison Nicholas)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pledge cards
- Connect cards / stay updated via website/FB
- KEC Reopening update
- Council Meeting – Tues 23rd June
- Library – Saturday 27th June (open 2-4pm)
- Upcoming webinars:
 - *“Walking alongside depression”* (with Dr. Ng Mei-Cheen & Pastor Brian): 17th July (TBC)
 - *“Gospel centrality in the believer’s life”* (with Pastor Paul Ling): 31st July or 1st Aug (TBC)
- Giving
- Prayer Meeting

BENEDICTION

¹⁷ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

- 1 Timothy 1:17