



Sermon Questions

May 26, 2024

1. Paul addressed the idolatry of the city of Athens. Our first thought often goes to statues or images, however, as A. W. Tozer says in *Knowledge of the Holy*, idolatry is much more than that. “Let us beware lest we in our pride accept the erroneous notion that idolatry consists only in kneeling before visible objects of adoration, and that civilized peoples are therefore free from it. The essence of idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him. It begins in the mind and may be present where no overt act of worship has taken place. “When they knew God,” wrote Paul, “they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.” What are some “idols” of our society? What are the things of the mind that take us away from God.
2. Paul’s heart broke when he saw the city. Think about times when you have been to tourist places. What was the initial reaction – Wow or Whoa? What does your heart say when you look at the city of Peterborough? What would it look like for our hearts to be distressed about the idolatry of the city?
3. Paul took time to invest in the city of Athens. He got to know the language and life of the people of the city. What would it look like to invest in your neighbour or in the spiritual life of the city.
4. Paul called them religious. Being religious can be good or it can simply be what you do, or superstitions one follows. What ways do we see people being religious which is not really walking in faith with God? Is there a difference between being religious and living out of belief in God?
5. God is the creator and giver of all things, even our breath. What can we do to make us more aware of God as creator and sustainer of all things? How often, as you wake up, or during your day, do you acknowledge that everything you have and are comes from God?
6. God has appointed everything in his time. Have you ever thought about the timing of your life and how God appoints each moment of your life? Does that give you comfort or is it tough to deal with the thought that some of the hard things in life are allowed by God?