



We Are
ALICE SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Desert People

Acts 17:16-34



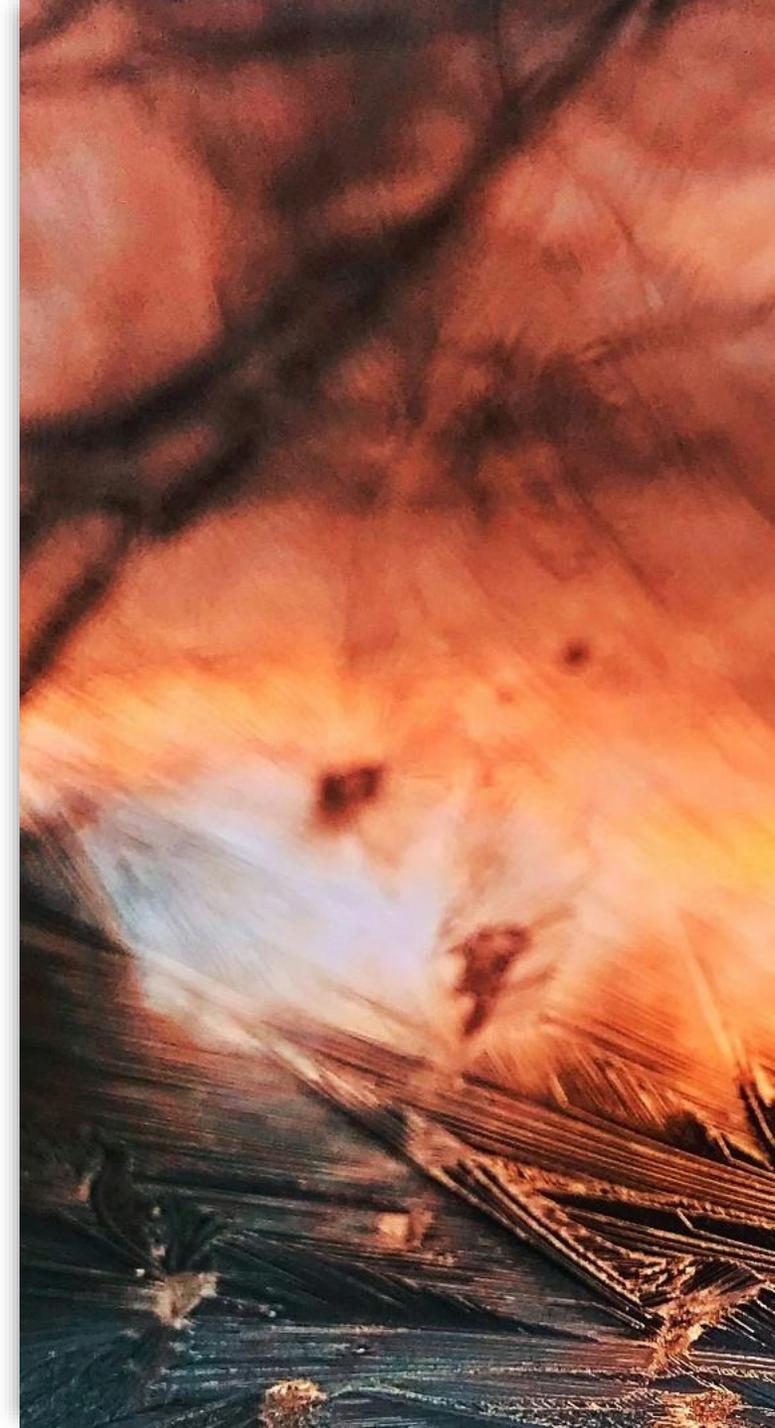
WE ARE

1. a royal priesthood
2. on mission everyday
3. collective discerners
4. desert people

SERIES SO FAR

ACTS 17:22-28

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.



DESERT PEOPLE

The Gospel Doesn't Change How We Share It Does

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 17:23)

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.

Acts 17:16-17

paroxynō

To be provoked / Spurred on / Angered

pneuma

Soul / Spirit / Breath

DESERT PEOPLE

God stirs Paul's spirit for the people

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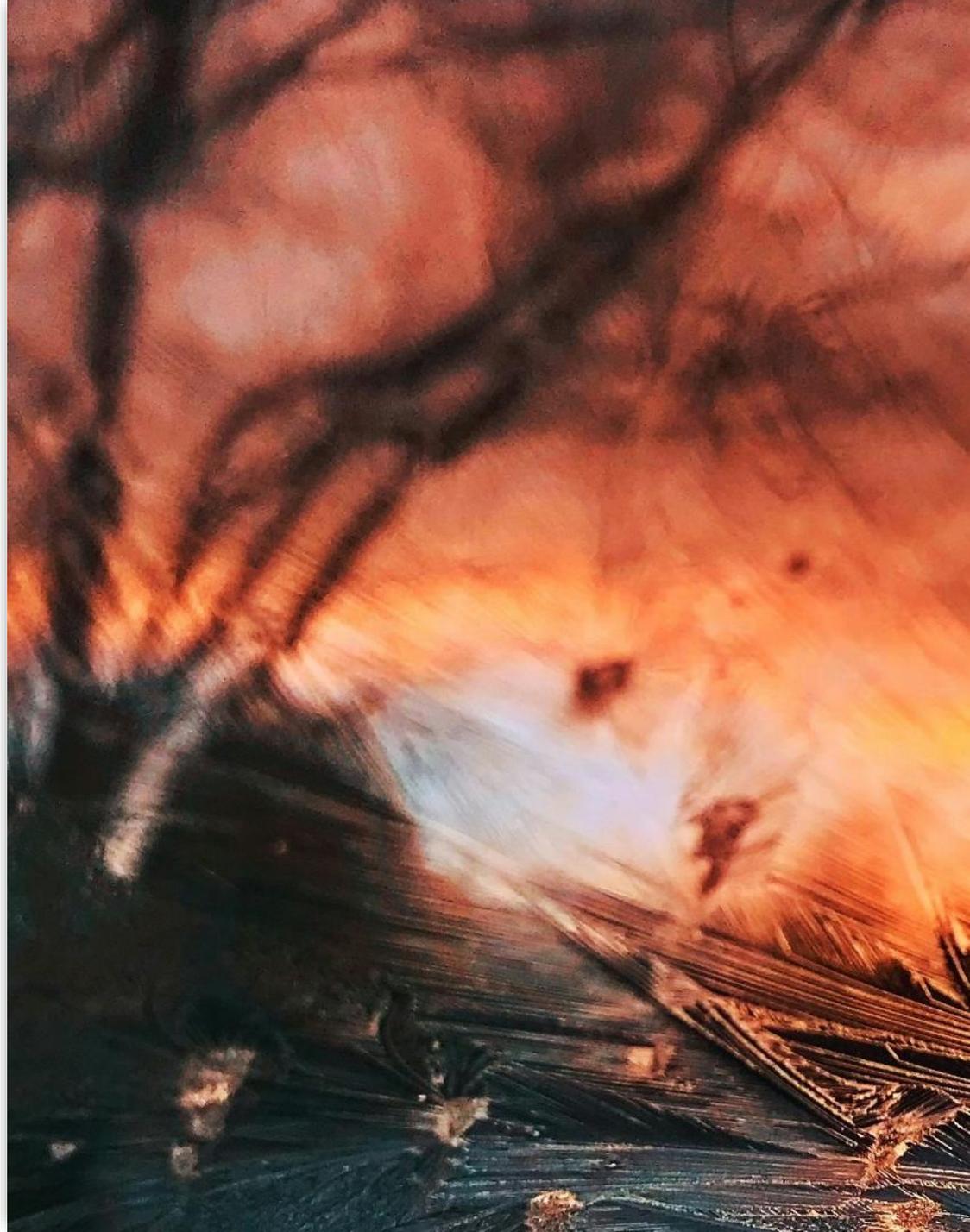
(Acts 17:16-17)



Who is God stirring
your spirit for?

ACTS 17:18-21

¹⁸ A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler 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.)



DESERT PEOPLE

Paul Engages With Them In The Middle of their Community

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(Acts 17:18)

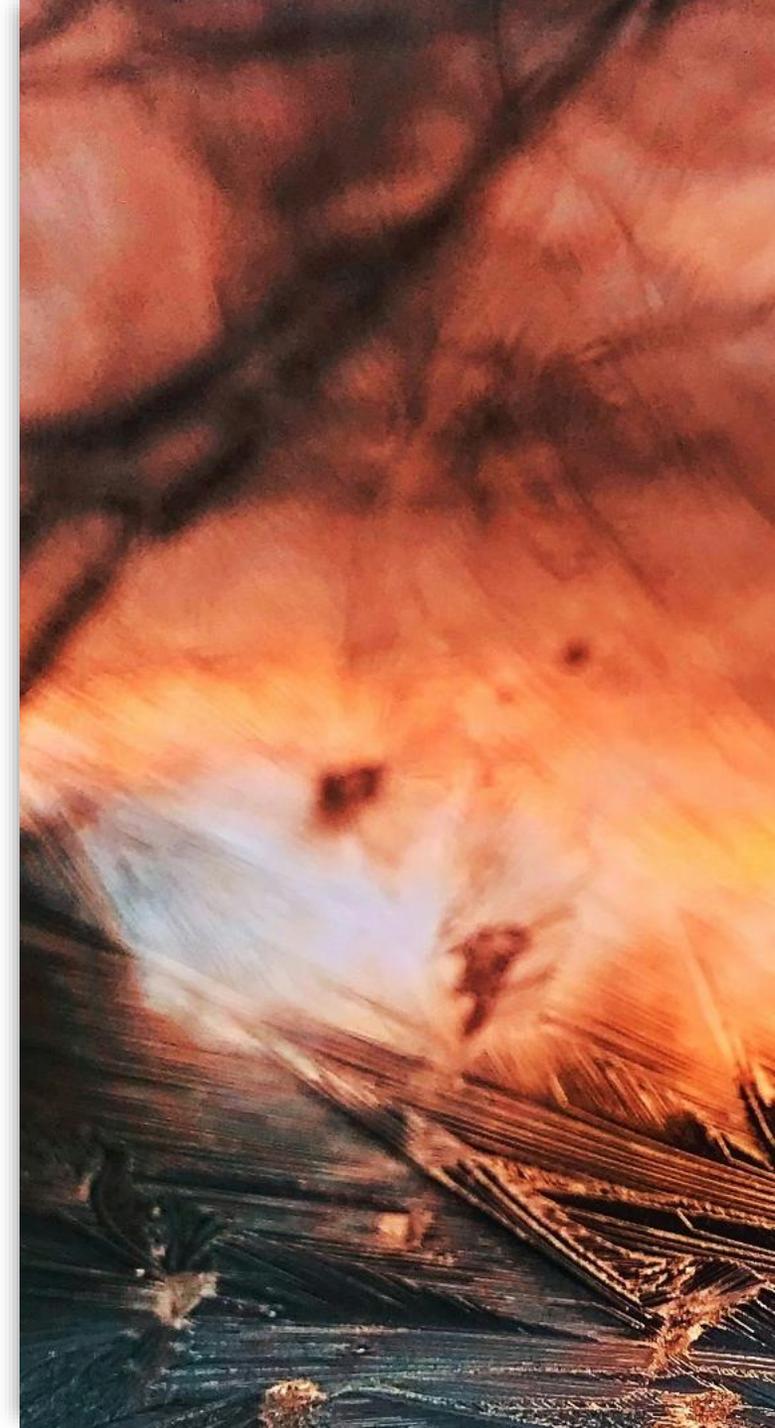


Do you know your community and
the people who make it up?

ACTS 17:22-28

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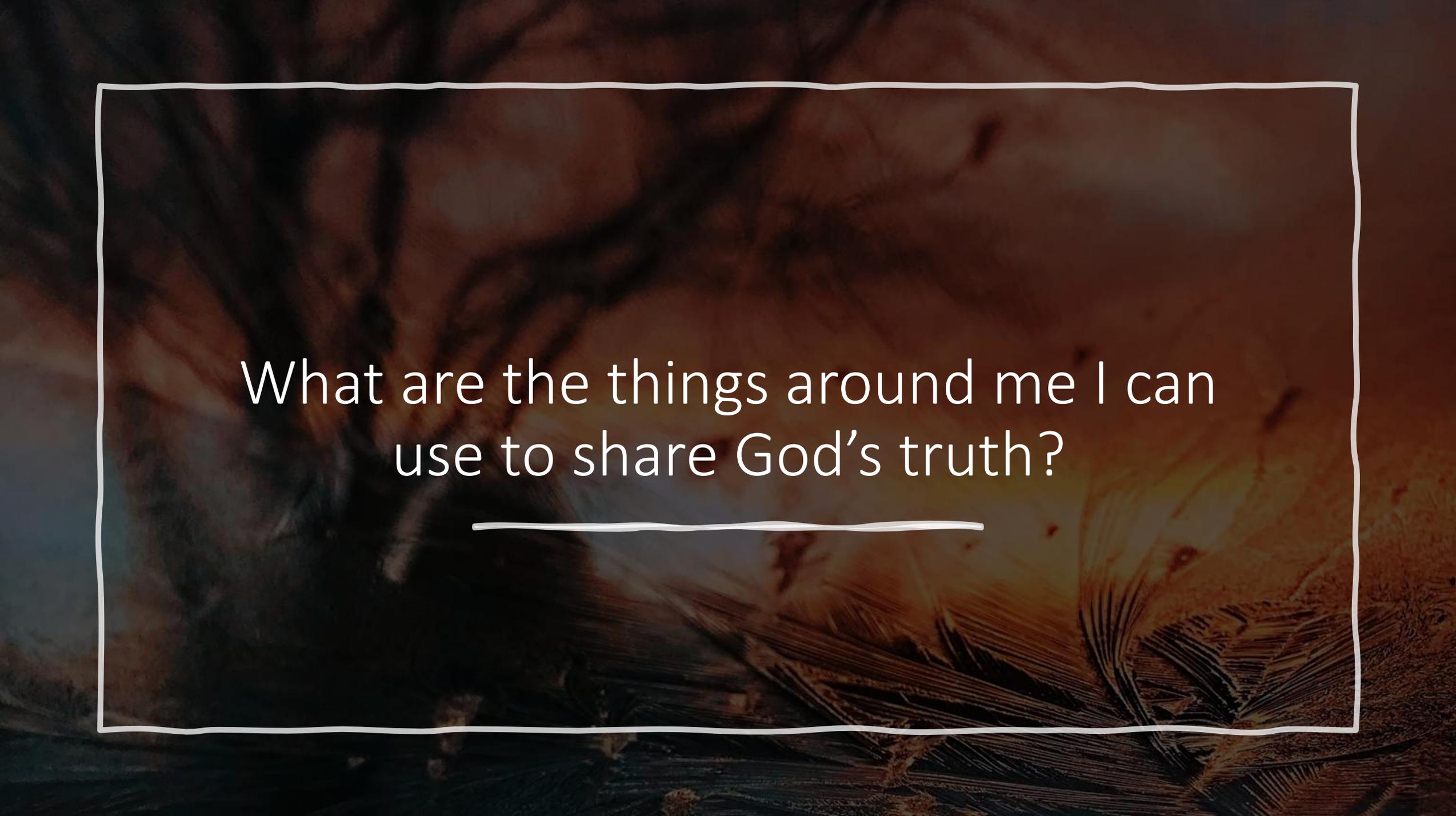


DESERT PEOPLE

The Gospel Meets People Where They Are At

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(Acts 17:22-23)



What are the things around me I can
use to share God's truth?

WE ARE DESERT PEOPLE

1. **Who** is God stirring my spirit for?
2. How can I place myself in the **middle of community** to know it more?
3. Where is **God's truth** reflected in the middle of community?