

# What Are We Believing In?

*Pastor Ross S. Russell, Church on the Beach, 6-14-20*

**Text:** Acts 17:10-15

## **1. Eagerly seek the Truth.** *Psalm 34:8, Matthew 5:6, Acts 17:11*

They welcomed it! They wanted it! They were hungry! Are you hungry for the Truth? Are you hungry for the Word? Part of receiving the Truth is *wanting* to know the Truth. Being open to hear. Leaving preconceived ideas at the door. The Bible says in Matthew 5:6 that those who “hunger and thirst for righteousness, . . . shall be satisfied.” And Psalm 34:8 says, “O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!”

## **2. Examine the Scriptures daily.** *Acts 17:11, 1 Timothy 1:3-7, 2 Timothy 2:15*

We need to know what the Bible says and not just go by hearsay, --or even just from what a preacher or teacher may say. Check what the Bible says. Just like these Bereans did when Paul taught them. That’s why you will hear people in churches saying, “Be a good Berean.” That means to be a student of the Word.

**There are many common misconceptions about Scripture that people hold on to without reading the Bible for understanding:**

- We get to heaven based on how good we are here on earth. (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- Once we become a Christian, being saved by God’s gift of grace, it does not matter what we do. (James 2:14-26)
- There are many ways to heaven, many paths to God. (John 14:6, Acts 4:12).
- The Bible conflicts with science. ([www.answersingenesis.org](http://www.answersingenesis.org))
- Christianity is about being financially prosperous. (1 Timothy 6:7-10)
- The Bible demeans women. (Ephesians 5:22-33)
- Christians are not supposed to judge. (John 7:24)

If you read the Bible for understanding, you will be able to rectify these misconceptions.

## **3. Share the Good News!** *Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Romans 10:14-15*

Missionaries all over the world right now are laying their lives down to preach the Good News. I encourage you to be courageous and say to the Lord like Isaiah did in Isaiah 6:8, “Here I am, send me!” Across the street or across the sea!