

# #mpc nightchurch

sunday sept 9th 2001

growing followers of Jesus

Welcome, especially if you're a visitor or newcomer. We hope you enjoy being part of nightchurch, where our mission is to teach the bible in a way that makes sense in our 21st century world. If this is your first time with us, PLEASE FILL OUT A VISITORS CARD so we can get to know you! Supper Roster next week: Matt and Emma B and friends

## Politically Incorrect

### Acts 14

#### 1. Rude Christianity

- Christmas and Easter, USA style
- Defender of the Faiths
- Peter and Diana and the Taliban... serve them right?
- all religions are equally right?

#### 2. The first missionaries

- a case of mistaken identity
- the gods who came down...
  - not us, but Jesus...

#### 3. The unacceptable message

- give up your small religions....
- for the God who made it all...

15 ... We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them. 16 In the past, he let all nations go their own way. 17 Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy."

#### 4. Science, creation, and Stephen Hawking

- The God who designed the seasons...
  - the 23.5 degree tilt
- God and science today
  - the bang that was just right
  - the electrons that are just right
  - the universe that is just right
  - the planet that's just right

#### 5. Good news for you?

### From Acts 14

There was a plot afoot among the Gentiles and Jews, together with their leaders, to mistreat them and stone them. 6 But they found out about it and fled to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and to the surrounding country, 7 where they continued to preach the good news. 8 In Lystra there sat a man crippled in his feet, who was lame from birth and had never walked. 9 He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed 10 and called out, "Stand up on your feet!" At that, the man jumped up and began to walk. 11 When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in human form!" 12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: 15 "Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them. 16 In the past, he let all nations go their own way. 17 Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy."

18 Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them. 19 Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead. 20 But after the disciples had gathered around him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe.

