

2. It was the place where the Gentiles could come to pray to the one true God

Those who came to the Courtyard of the Gentiles did not come to worship their own gods (syncretism), but rather, came to worship the one true God revealed to the people of Israel. Similarly, the Church is called to make space for those who wish to begin the dialogue about God's existence or who are in the initial stages of seeking an encounter with God. What resources do we as Christians have at our disposal to help others begin the initial conversation about God's existence and his relevance to everyday life (e.g. the great tradition of rational proofs for the existence of God)? What kind of an atmosphere must be created for those who wish to enter into the dialogue?



Raphael, *The School of Athens*