

This Changes Everything: Part 4

Our Story Transformed: Acts 10

The tension: holiness laws were put in place to separate God's people from those around them (Leviticus 11:46-47, 20:26), but Jesus tears down these barriers to bring people together.

Big Idea: God broke his own rules to reach the world. There should be no barriers that keep Christians from walking towards 'outsiders' with grace and love.

Holiness is a matter of _____ transformation not outward _____.

Notes:

Application:

We cannot rebuild relational walls that Jesus has torn down. Instead, we embrace the universal application of the gospel.

Today it is our joy and privilege to celebrate the baptisms of Greg Rhodes and Frances MacDonald.

We also come together as a community to support these parents as they dedicate their children to the Lord:

*Will and Nicole Allender – Theodore Jacob Lee
Ovidio and Jessica Cartegena – Vanessa Jessica
Will and Caitlyn Kemp – Arlyn Elizabeth
Jon and Lisa Lensink – Gilbert Frederick
Brock and Melissa Mason – Ashton Samuel*

Life Group Questions

This week, before you go to your Life Group:

Commit to reading through the Book of Acts over the next month. Last week we read Acts 11-15. This week read Acts 16-20. What are some of the things you learned by reading this section? Make some notes of questions, observations and key themes!

Life Group Discussion Questions:

What are some of the people groups that the Church in North American culture has a hard time reaching? What do you think are some of the barriers that have been put up between Christians and these groups?

Read Acts 10 together out loud. Why do you think this story is important to how Peter and the early Church thought about the gospel, and the mission of the church? What is the significance of the purity laws regarding food (check Leviticus 11:46-47 and 20:26)? Why would these laws be given to the people of Israel in the Old Testament?

What is the significance of God declaring all people 'clean'? How do you think this transformation would change the way the Jewish Christians viewed non-Jewish people and their relationship with them?

What do you think Peter's vision says about God and what his intention is for the Church? What do you think are some of the things that we can learn from this passage when it comes to how we treat people who are different from us?

How can we as a group of Christians practically tear down any walls that keep us from walking towards unchurch people in love and grace?