

Life Group Notes
Sunday 12 May 2019

Speaker: Tex Chettiar
Title: A place at the Table
Passage: Acts 10:9-35

Read Acts 10:9-16

In this part of the passage we see that Peter has a vision and in v12 it refers to the list of food which can be found in Leviticus 11 & Deuteronomy 14. This list was the list of food that God had given the Israelites.

Peter growing up would have been keenly aware of what made him ceremonially clean and unclean, but for him and the Jewish community it had gone beyond just what food they ate, it had spread to viewing other people groups as those that could make them unclean.

In this section, ***Peter's world view is challenged.*** Just because something has always been the norm it doesn't mean that it is right and that it doesn't need to change.

Read Acts 10:17-22

Although Peter is not completely sure what this vision means, God, speaks to him by His Spirit, telling him to go with the men. This isn't something that is easy for Peter.

There could be various thoughts that Peter has in making his decision, as he faces the men. Maybe fear that the Romans who killed Jesus, are now at his door and maybe they will kill him? Or simply the fact that Cornelius is a gentile and knows that he can't go into his house, nor does he want to!

Peter has a choice. Will he be obedient in following God's prompting? Or will he just let it pass him by, thinking it's optional?

Read Acts 10:23

Here we see that the journey starts by ***Peter crossing a road.*** One of the key parts of this verse is that Jesus takes the brothers from Joppa on a journey with him!

Our mission isn't supposed to be an individual one, but a church family one.

Read Acts 10:24-29

Peter arrives at Cornelius' house in a place of humility, rather than pride, in thinking he's now arriving with the saving message. Instead, ***Peter catches Cornelius' story (which is told in v30-33).***

Are we those people who actively listen, or are we just waiting for our turn to talk?

Read Acts 10:34-35

Even though Peter may start off thinking that the Gentiles don't have a place at the table, as a result of his vision he then ***shows others, Christ.***

In these verses, we see that despite educational background, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, all are welcome, and all have a place at the table. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we know that we are accepted, loved, known and have a place at the table.

Questions:

1. What areas is Jesus addressing in you, as we go through the invited series?
2. Are you choosing to fully step into the INVITED series?
3. What road will you cross and with who will you cross it?
4. Are you actively listening to others stories?
5. Will you accept what Jesus is saying to you?
6. Cornelius isn't even Christian, yet he uses his home as a tool for his friends and family to hear about Jesus!
How can we use our homes as an accessible place for our friends and family to hear (and feel) the Gospel?