

Redemptive Love
Clean and Unclean
Sunday, February 12th, 2023

Acts 10: 9-16

⁹About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. ¹¹He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. ¹²It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. ¹³Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."

¹⁴"Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." ¹⁵The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

¹⁶This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.

- 1. The Seeking Heart is Answered.** Have you found this to be true? Are you seeking Him now?
- 2. Change the Heart, to Change the Mind.** Are there any people/groups you find difficult to love? Will you let God share His truth in your heart for these people?
- 3. Love All, as Jesus Does.**

Conclusion: Through Jesus there is redemption for all who believe in Him. He offers Living Water to all who thirst, and He will send His messengers of redemptive love where there is thirst.

May we be willing messengers and freely share the Good News to whomever He sends our way.

LIFE GROUP LESS ON
Clean and Unclean

Week of February 12- February 18, 2023

Ice Breaker: Have you had any food you were determined not to like but upon trying it, you were surprised that you did?

Read Acts 10: 9-16.

1. What is Peter doing as God meets with him? (v.9)
2. What was Peter experiencing as he prayed? (v.10) Do you ever find distractions as you pray?
3. How did God use the distraction to get Peter's attention?
4. What did God show Peter in a vision? (vs. 11-12)
5. What is significant about the variety of creatures together?
6. What did God tell Peter to do with these animals? (v.13)
7. What was Peter's response to this command? (v.14)
8. Has there been something God asked of you and your first response was "no way, I would never do that" because you felt it was wrong?
9. Is this a proper response when the Lord asks us to do something? How should we respond to the Lord-even when we don't understand?
10. Has God used something familiar to you to reveal new understanding?
11. How did God respond to Peter's objection? (v.15)
12. What was God's deeper message? Who would be viewed unclean to the Israelites? Why?
13. Read Acts 10: 1-4. Who is Cornelius? What is the state of his heart towards God? How does God respond to Cornelius?
14. Read Matthew 7: 7-8. What is Jesus teaching? Who is this for?
15. Read Matthew 5: 43-44. How does this apply to Peter's feelings towards Romans? Towards Cornelius he was being sent to?
16. Why would Jesus call us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us? What is required of us to do this?
17. Read John 10:16. Who are the other sheep? What is the message?
18. Read Isaiah 49:6. What truth did God declare through Isaiah?
19. Read Luke 10: 30-36. Who showed the love of God in this example? How does this relate to Matthew 5: 43-44.
20. Read Acts 10: 34-35, 44-48 What did Peter come to understand and how did it change his heart? What happened because of his changed heart and understanding?

Point to ponder: Truth comes from God. If our truth does not align with the Word of God and His heart, we need to ask Him to change our heart so He might cause us to see things in the proper *Light*.