

Too Messy
Series: Loving and Loathing
Sermon: Don't Call Unclean
November 1, 2015

1. One person's clean is not another person's clean? With this statement, usually one person thinks it is clean, while it doesn't seem clean to another's standards. Which person are you? The one who thinks it is clean or the one who is not as satisfied?
2. How should a church grow? Should they grow by attracting other Christians or by making new Christians?
3. What do you think of Penn Gillette's statement? Penn is part of the Las Vegas magic show, Penn and Teller. "If you believe that there is a Heaven and a Hell, and people could be going to Hell ... and you think it's not really worth telling them this because it would make it socially awkward, ... how much do you have to hate somebody to not proselytize? How much do you have to hate somebody to believe that everlasting life is possible and not tell them that?"
4. What do you think the Holy Spirit's role in a believer's life when it comes to people, who do not know Jesus?
5. Read Acts 10:9-23.
 - A. What kind of disgust did Peter deal with?
 - B. What kind of disgust do you deal with?
 - C. What stands out to you about this vision that Peter had?
6. "Our walls prevent us from reaching people God loves with God's truth and grace." Do you agree with this statement? If so, what walls do you have break down so that people can hear you?
7. Read Acts 10:24-33.
 - A. What do you notice about Peter?
 - B. What do you notice about Cornelius?
 - C. What was God able to do when people knock down the walls of disgust?
8. What is holiness? Holiness defined means "set apart". What does holiness mean in light of Matthew 9:13 "I desire mercy, not sacrifice?"

9. What did you think of the stories of the two people, who tried to overcome their disgust by loving in some strange ways?

A. Catherine of Sienna drinking the infection of a patient.

B. St. Francis of Assisi chose to embrace a leper when he was scared of leprosy.

10. What did you think of Shawn's story of helping at the Capital City Trailer Park during Love Your Neighbor week?