

Theme: Changing Values

Objective: To understand that God will challenge our comfort level

Memory Verse: Either from memory or by looking it up, write out Psalm 40:8

Follow-up from last week: What steps did you take to be an “instrument of God” for this coming summer? Did you contact any of the pastors from church to see what new capacity you can serve this summer?

Read Acts 10:1-8

- When have you felt like God was speaking to you directly in a dream or vision?
- As a member of the Italian Regiment, how do you believe Cornelius became a God-fearing man?
- Cornelius followed God’s direction without hesitation. When have you followed God without hesitation?

Read Acts 10:9-22

- Look up Leviticus 11:4-7, 13-19, and 29-30. Why did God restrict the diets of the Israelites?
- Why did God repeat the vision three times to Peter?
- The vision was pretty clear, but Peter was still “wondering about the meaning of the vision” (v. 17). Do you ask God to show you His will even though it has been clearly laid out for you? Do you just have problems accepting God’s will
- God was pretty clear about the dietary restrictions in the Old Testament. Why is God now “lifting the ban”?

Read Acts 10:23-48

- What groups of people were you taught to stay away from as a child?
- Growing up, would you characterize your family as being “open-” or “closed-” minded?
- Peter was out of his comfort area. We often say that a task or a ministry is out of our comfort area. But, what is your comfort area? Have you ever defined what you are actually comfortable with in terms of ministry? Realistically, are you comfortable with any area of ministry?
- What do you think Cornelius was serving for dinner? Do you think God may have really tested Peter with the meal at Cornelius’ home?
- Verse 34—how difficult would this have been for Peter to accept?

Application: God really challenged Peter’s thinking and deeply held beliefs. Is there an area of your life where you feel God has been calling you to re-evaluate? In terms of ministry, is there an area that you need to face your own fears or bias

Worship: Read Psalm 51. Focus on God’s cleansing power to prepare us for ministry

Prayer requests

Memory Verse: Hebrews 12:1—“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”