

May 31, 2015

“Life without Borders”

Text: Acts 10:34-43

Acts 10 challenges us to move beyond the small-minded limited thinking of mere mortals and that we move toward the all-encompassing unlimited thinking of God.

Jews weren't allowed to enter the home of a Gentile. They would have considered it to be ritually unclean. And especially, they weren't allowed to eat with Gentiles.

At that moment in Acts 10, the Christian church became a church without borders and a ministry without limits. They were poised now to truly fulfill the great commission that Jesus had given them and has given us (Ref: Matthew 28:20; Acts 1:8)

Living a Life without Borders, three observations:

First of all...

1. While we're always looking for a way to exclude others, God is always looking for a way to b_____ us
t_____.

Every tribe and every race and every nation has looked for ways to exclude others from “their special group.” It seems we are always looking for a way to exclude others. When it isn't based on race, it's based on socio-economic factors -- they're not in the same class as we are; they're not one of us.

The message of the gospel and the goal of the church is, that we are not separated according to us and them, that we are o_____ in Christ. There is no us and them. There is only _____.Ref: Gal. 3:28

2. While we're always looking to keep God in a box, God insists on moving o_____ the box.

S_____ doesn't tell us all there is to know about God, for one simple reason: it is impossible for us to know all there is to know about God. Ref: Psalm 40:6

Here's the problem. When you put in a God in a box, pretty soon you find you're left with nothing but an empty box, because our God is too great to be contained, and he's far too great for us to comprehend. Ref: Isaiah 55:8

3. While we're looking for a way to get God on board with our plans, God is calling us to get on board with his p_____.

God's plan was that the church of Jesus Christ would carry the message of the gospel throughout the world and throughout history, crossing all boundaries and breaking all barriers, so that all could experience new life in Jesus Christ.

Every church and every believer will, at one time or another, face a similar choice: Are we going to do this our way or are we going to do this God's way? Ref: Isaiah 43:19, Eph.3:20-21