

CVC Outline & Life Group Study: Welcoming the Unwelcome

Acts 10:1-43

Opening Questions

1. Where have you felt most welcome? Where have you felt most unwelcome?
2. Have you ever attended an event, gathering, or home and been surprised by who was there?

Today we'll look at two surprising people in Acts 10:

- Cornelius, a Roman centurion seeking God. Peter, an apostle whom God was still transforming.

One needed salvation. One needed transformation. Both needed an encounter with God.

Part 1: God Pursues the Unlikely Read Acts 10:1-8

- What stands out about Cornelius? Why would he have been an unlikely candidate for God's work?
- What does this passage teach us about God's desire to reveal Himself to people?
- Have you ever known someone who seemed unlikely to become a follower of Jesus?

Application: Who are the "Cornelius" people in your life right now?

Part 2: God Changes Our View of People Read Acts 10:9-23

- Why was Peter resistant to God's vision? What prejudices or assumptions was God confronting?
- What does "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean" mean in this context?

Application: Are there people you tend to write off spiritually? Who do you find difficult to love, understand, or welcome?

Part 3: God Welcomes the Unwelcome Read Acts 10:24-33

What impresses you about Cornelius' response? Why do you think he invited family and friends?

- How did God prepare both Cornelius and Peter for this encounter?

Application: Have you ever seen God work on both sides of a conversation? Who might God already be preparing for a spiritual conversation?

Part 4: Identity Through Jesus Read Acts 10:34-43

- What realization does Peter come to? What does this passage teach about God's heart for all people?
- How does Jesus Give Us & Restore our identity?

Our identity is found in Christ.

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:17 Galatians 2:20

Question:

What area of your life is God still transforming?