

Overcoming Prejudice with God's Love Everyday Supernatural Living – Part 17

Life Church St. Louis – July 7, 2024

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Pray Daily for your Five Friends Focus

Leviticus 11:24 (ESV) “And by these you shall become unclean. Whoever touches their carcass shall be unclean until the evening,

Matthew 8:2–3 (ESV) And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.” And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I will; be clean.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Romans 5:8 (ESV) but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

1. Trust God is _____ Hearts

Acts 10:1–2 (ESV) At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God.

Acts 10:3–4 (ESV) About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, “Cornelius.” And he stared at him in terror and said, “What is it, Lord?” And he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God.

Acts 10:5–8 (ESV) And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea.” When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

2. Be Open to God Changing Your _____

Acts 10:9–10 (ESV) The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance.

Acts 10:11–12 (ESV) and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air.

Acts 10:13–16 (ESV) And there came a voice to him: “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.” But Peter said, “By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.” And the voice came to him again a second time, “What God has made clean, do not call common.” This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.

3. Act in _____ to God's Guidance

Acts 10:17–18 (ESV) Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there.

Acts 10:19–20 (ESV) And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them.”

Acts 10:21–22 (ESV) And Peter went down to the men and said, “I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?” And they said, “Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.”

Acts 10:23 (ESV) So he invited them in to be his guests. The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him.

Overcoming Prejudice with God's Love Study Guide

Everyday Supernatural Living – Part 17

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Intro. How would you define prejudice?

Why did the Old Testament have laws regarding ceremonial cleanness (Leviticus 11:24)?

What changed about ceremonial cleanness with the coming of Jesus (Matthew 8:2-3)?

What does Romans 5:8 tell us about how to overcome prejudice?

1A. In what ways was Cornelius seeking after God (Acts 10:1-2)?

1B. Why did God send an angel to give a message to Cornelius (Acts 10:3-4)?

1C. What does Cornelius' response to the angel tell us about his heart (Acts 10:5-8)?

1D. How might God be preparing the hearts of the five friends that you are praying for?

2A. Why did God have to change Peter's prejudice towards Gentiles (Acts 10:9-10)?

2B. Why do you think that God spoke to Peter through a vision (Acts 10:11-12)?

2C. Explain how God was working both in Cornelius and in Peter to prepare for a divine encounter (Acts 10:13-16).

2D. What prejudices in your own heart might keep you from being a witness to certain kinds of people?

3A. What would have been Peter's typical response in the past to a visit by Gentiles inviting him to their home (Acts 10:17-18)?

3B. How did the Spirit's words bring the complete revelation to Peter about what was going on (Acts 10:19-20)?

3C. Do you think it was hard or easy for Peter to change his attitude toward Gentiles (Acts 10:21-23)?

3D. Who in your own life might God be working to change your attitude or prejudice towards?