

**Sunday Sermon Review: Week of December 5th, 2021**

**Sermon Series: The Book of Acts**

**Sermon: God's Heart for ALL People (Acts 10:1-29)**

**Speaker: Pastor Beau Jensen**

## **Icebreaker**

- Share something you used to believe that you found out wasn't true after all.

## **Conversation Starters and Sermon Review**

### **I. The Heart of God is Really Big (v. 1-8)**

- How do you distinguish between being devout and fully devout to God?
- Have you experienced God being active in a situation that you didn't realize until after it was all said and done?
- How do you respond to the statement, "Your sincere belief in something doesn't make it true"?
- Is there someone in your life now that you think was placed there by God? How do you know?

### **II. God's Invitation is for Everyone (v. 9-23)**

- How has God used practical things in your life to show you something spiritual?
- How has prayer impacted a situation in your life? If it's a regular part of your life, how would you describe how to do it to someone else?
- Back in the day of Cornelius and Peter, dinner was an invitation of friendship. How do we invite people into friendship now?
- How do you maintain friendships with people who have significantly opposing views (i.e., gun laws, political views, etc.)?

### III. Our Heart Should Match God's Heart (24-29)

- When someone asks who you are, what is the first thing you say to identify yourself? Is it that you are a Christian or a follower of Christ? How could this be shifted? What identities are you willing to set aside?
- Does your identity change based on who you're around?
- How has God transformed your heart? Where do you need to let Him transform you? What's holding you back?
- Christ overrides what divides us. What is a viewpoint or opinion that you have about something or someone that is keeping you from showing God's love?

### Act On It

**Encourage:** We all have things that we've grown up believing that just aren't true. It happens. Our experiences, how we were raised, the belief systems to which we've been exposed all have led, in some way, to some wrong ideas, and maybe even some misperceptions about God. As followers, God wants us to know the truth so we can share the truth with others who struggle with what to believe. God doesn't discriminate, and He loves and pursues EVERYONE. The invitation into a relationship with God exists for EVERYONE. Jesus came and died for EVERYONE, to override all divides. Galatians 3:28 reads, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Christ needs to become our main way. In a world that tries to sway us one way or the other, remember that we are all one in Christ. Set aside what divides us and embrace what unites us. Decide today to let God direct your life.

**Ask:** Pray for God to show you the truth about any misconceptions you may have about Him. Ask for awareness to see where He's present and working in your life each day. Pray for God to reveal the supernatural through the practical. Ask God to prepare for you whatever next step you may have in

your faith journey. Pray to remove any divides or offenses you've created and held onto against others. Ask to be given a heart for people, a heart that loves people as God loves them. Pray for opportunities to invite people to Christ, and for the obedience to act when they're revealed to you.

**Challenge:** Write out some core beliefs that you have about God and dig into the Bible this week to find some supporting scripture(s). Step out of your routine and share a conversation, meal, or a cup of coffee/tea with someone this week who is outside of your normal social circle. Share the love of God with them and invite them to church and/or to your Small Group. This week, either through invite cards or by word of mouth, just start inviting people that cross your path to one of the three services (11am, 1pm, and 3pm) of Christmas at LifePoint on Christmas Eve!

## **Prayer Request and Prayer**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your heart that's bigger than we could ever imagine. We're so thankful that there's nothing that disqualifies anyone from having a relationship with You. Thank you that the invitation to Christ is for everyone and there's nothing that we can do or not do to affect it. God, help us set aside any misconceptions that we may have about You. Shed light on the areas of our lives that need Your truth. Expose any prejudices we have. Anyone that we've been avoiding or purposely keeping out the family of God, we repent and ask You to use us to reach them. Equip us with The Spirit so we can fight the lies of this world and not give in so easily to false ideas. Lord, help us to love ALL people with no conditions or requirements. Give us hearts that resemble Yours. Mold us, transform us, and give us eyes to see people as You do. Humble us and help us remember how blessed we feel when we feel your presence and love and move us to share that same feeling with others. May we do this as an overflow of our love for You so that You are given the glory, not us. We thank you, we praise you, and we honor you. In Jesus' name, Amen.