

Sermon Discussion Guide:

A Gospel for All

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Scripture: **Acts 11:1-8**

Series: **The Spirit & The Church**

OVERVIEW

It doesn't take very long to realize that life can be difficult. God's good world is fallen, and the effects of sin are pervasive. Nevertheless, God never ceases to be at work in us. When life gets difficult, our default tendency is to apply a laserlike focus on changing our external circumstances. This may sometimes be successful at relieving stress, but the result is fleeting at best. Instead, lasting change of our internal spiritual condition is a much more significant need, and **the greatest work God will ever do in your life will be through his Word.**

CORROBORATING TEXTS

Hebrews 4:12; Psalm 119:105, 130; Romans 10:14-15, 17; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; John 17:17; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Psalm 19

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Prior to listening to this sermon, how would you have answered the question, "What is your greatest need?"
2. In Acts chapters 10 and 11, the Gospel is preached and people are changed. How do you see God at work at Redeemer? How do you see him at work in your community? In your life?
3. Oftentimes, opposition will form when God is at work. Share a time when you have personally witnessed opposition to God's work. What were the causes of the opposition? Did the opposers eventually come around to God's plan?
4. God uses his Word for conviction. Share a time when you experienced true conviction versus another time when you felt only shame. How is feeling convicted different from feeling shame for sin? What is the ultimate result of conviction? Does shame produce the same result?
5. God uses his Word for guidance. Are there aspects of life where you feel like you're thriving? If so, to what do you attribute this success? Alternatively, are there aspects of your life where you're simply hanging on? What is needed to turn these situations around?
6. After discussing this Sunday's sermon, how would you now answer the question, "What is your greatest need?" How has your thinking changed about the ministry of the Word and its impact on our lives as Christians?