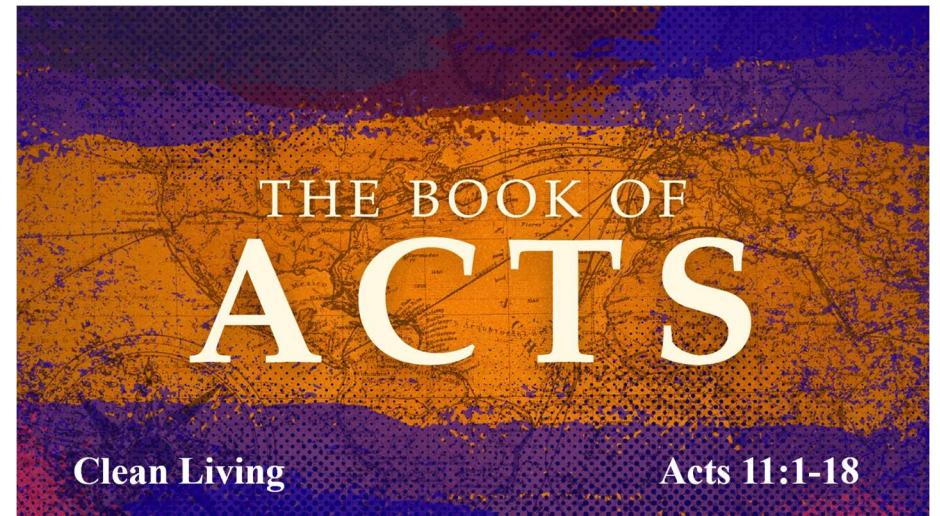


3. How does remembering our own salvation story help soften our hearts toward others?
4. What might it look like for you to “go without distinction” this week, like Peter did?
5. Is there a relationship God may be calling you to step into rather than avoid?

Sermon Discussion Points for



Calvary Chapel Groups

Sunday, January 18, 2025

CALVARY
OXNARD

First

Read Acts 11:1-18

In these verses Peter recounts his calling from the Lord to share the gospel and fellowship with the Gentiles in Caesarea. Initially He was criticized for doing this, until the believing Jews in Jerusalem heard about the Lord bringing salvation to the Gentiles. They discovered the power of the gospel to save anyone and everyone.

Vs. 1-3 – Obedience Brought Criticism

1. What are some funny or frustrating examples of how people define “clean” differently? How does that help set the stage for this passage?
2. Why do you think “clean vs. unclean” is such a powerful metaphor for how we view people?
3. Why were the believers in Jerusalem upset with Peter? What specifically bothered them?
4. Why is it often harder to face criticism from other Christians than from non-believers?
5. Can you think of modern examples where obedience to God might invite criticism from within the church?
6. What helps you discern the difference between biblical conviction and human tradition?

Vs. 4-12 – Jesus Breaks Down Barriers

1. What barriers existed between Jews and Gentiles in Peter’s day?
2. What was the real issue behind their criticism of Peter regarding the food laws?
3. How does Ephesians 2 help us understand what Jesus accomplished between divided groups?
4. Why is it important to say “I see differences and celebrate them” rather than pretending differences don’t exist?
5. What are some barriers between you and others that Jesus has broken down, or wants to break down?

Vs. 13-18 – The Gospel Can Save Anyone

1. Why do we sometimes struggle to believe that certain people could truly repent and be changed?
2. What does 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 teach us about who God can save?

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