

# WELLSPRING

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## WORSHIP CENTER

### **Acts Chapter 11 – No Favoritism 08/10/2025 Questions**

1. In Acts 11:1-3, why do you think the leaders in Jerusalem reacted with criticism instead of celebration when they heard that the Gentiles had received the Lord?
2. How can religious traditions sometimes make us slow to accept what God is doing?
3. Almost all ancient cultures were ethno-centric, meaning they felt their own culture was the “real human culture” and all others were inferior or even subhuman. How does Genesis 1:27 correct this misunderstanding?
4. How could the truth contained in Genesis 1:27 be so far ahead of its time, when no ancient cultures looked at all people (including women) as being made in the image of God?
5. How does the question that Joshua asks in Joshua 5:13, “Are you for us or for our enemies?” reflect our human tendency to reduce situations into “us” vs “them” thinking? Were you surprised by the Angel’s response of “Neither”?
6. When have you assumed God must be “on your side” without asking if you were aligned with His purposes? How can focusing on “Whose side is God on?” distract us from the real question, “Am I on God’s side?”
7. How did God’s direction in Acts chapters 10 and 11 confront and challenge the standard “in-group/out-group” thinking?
8. Can you relate to the definition of “in-group bias” as the tendency to give preferential treatment to people who I consider “like me”?
9. In what ways can “in-group/out-group” thinking harm the unity of the church or unintentionally reinforce cliques? When have you experienced being part of the “out-group,” and how did it affect you?
10. How does what Paul said to Cornelius in Acts 10:34 (, (“I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality.”) speak to the issue of God’s perspective on in-group/out-group thinking?
11. What’s one change you can make this week to intentionally include someone you might otherwise overlook?