



A UNIFIED CHURCH

Scriptural Reasons & Reasonable Explanations

ACTS 11:1-18

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • October 16 & 17, 2021 • Acts, week 53 • Msg. 21-35

1. Expect _____ (vv.1-3)

2. Resolve _____ (vv.4-17)

A)

B)

C)

3. Respond _____ (v.18)

Acts 11:1 Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. **2** So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, **3** "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them." **4** But Peter began and explained it to them in order: **5** "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. **6** Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. **7** And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' **8** But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' **9** But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.' **10** This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. **11** And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. **12** And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. **13** And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; **14** he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' **15** As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. **16** And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' **17** If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" **18** When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life." (ESV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **James 4:1-3**. What are some of the topics today's Christians quarrel and fight about? While all Christians like to think their fighting is justified, how are those particular topics often motivated by selfish passions?
2. Read **1 Corinthians 3:1-3**. Describe the difference between the kinds of things you were willing to quarrel about as an immature Christian, but have experienced in your spiritual maturity as not appropriate?
3. Read **Galatians 2:11-14**. In light of the biblical significance of "Gentile inclusion" in the church, what are some of today's biblically debated issues that warrant the focused work of resolution?
4. Read **James 3:13-18**. What is the most needful and impactful aspect of this important passage for your life, when you consider the topic of disagreements?
5. Read **Romans 14:19** and **Ephesians 4:1-3**. Specifically, what can you do this week to live out the truth of these two passages?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

October 17th

Is. 62-64 & 1Th. 5

October 18th

Is. 65-66 & 2Th. 1

October 19th

Jer. 1-2 & 2Th. 2

October 20th

Jer. 3-4 & 2Th. 3

October 21st

Jer. 5-6 & 1Tim. 1

October 22nd

Jer. 7-8 & 1Tim. 2

October 23rd

Jer. 9-10 & 1Tim. 3

October 24th

Jer. 11-13 & 1Tim. 4

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

Msg. 20-40 – **Enjoying God's Family**

Msg. 11-05 – **Sincerely Loving God's People**

Msg. 20-15 – **When God's People Disagree**

Msg. 17-14 – **Loving God's Flawed People**

Msg. 13-04 – **The Gospel's Assault on the Egocentric**

Msg. 11-08 – **Learning Counterintuitive Responses**

Msg. 04-07 – 04-10 – **Prompted by Love** (a four-part series on selfless love)

See this sermon and all
Compass-related videos on

**YouTube.com/
CompassBibleChurch**

Social Media Connections:

 **CompassChurch**
 **FocalPointRadio**
PastorMike

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Adams, Jay. **From Forgiven to Forgiving**. Calvary Press, 1997.

Brauns, Chris. **Unpacking Forgiveness: Biblical Answers for Complex Questions**. Crossway, 2008.

Bunyan, John. **Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners**. Reprint. Baker Books, 1986.

Carson, D. A. **Love in Hard Places**. Crossway Books, 2002.

Dever, Mark and Jamie Dunlop. **The Compelling Community**. Crossway, 2015.

Edwards, Jonathan. **Charity and Its Fruits**. Banner of Truth, 1969.

Fernando, Ajith. **Reclaiming Friendship**. Herald Press, 1993.

Geisler, Norman. **Christian Ethics: Contemporary Issues & Options, 2nd Edition**. Baker Books, 2010.

MacArthur, John. **The Freedom and Power of Forgiveness**. Crossway, 2009.

Sande, Corlette. **The Young Peacemaker: Teaching Students to Respond to Conflict God's Way**. Shepherd Press, 1997.

Sande, Ken. **The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflicts**. Baker Books, 1997.

Smith, William P. **How to Love Difficult People: Receiving and Sharing God's Mercy**. NG Press, 2008.

Welch, Edward T. **Side by Side: Walking with Others in Wisdom and Love**. Crossway, 2015.

Wray, Daniel E. **Biblical Church Discipline**. Banner of Truth, 1991.