

Connections

Pride and Prejudice 7.30.17 Acts 10:1-35

As a kid, what foods did you refuse to eat?

Read the story in Acts 10:1-35. If this were turned into a book or movie, what title would you give it?

Sociologist, Elliot Aronson, PhD, defines prejudice as "a hostile or negative attitude toward a distinguishable group based on generalizations derived from faulty or incomplete information."

Based on the above definition, are you prejudiced? (You don't have to answer out loud - although confession is good for the soul). Think about race, religion, age, gender, social status etc.

What areas of division between groups of people do you think are the strongest in our culture?

Prejudice is connected with pride.

Jewish "superiority" was a deeply entrenched attitude.

Does Archie Bunker express reveal your heart when he says, "I'm not prejudiced. I love all those inferior people."

In what places do you need God's help to overcome subtle feelings of superiority?

Breaking the cycle of exclusion...is not easy.

Why did the angel have to tell Peter to do this three times?

What prejudice is really hard for you to overcome?

Breaking the cycle of exclusion...may go against our religion. Read Acts 10:10-15

Why were the words of the angel such a shock to Peter?

This command went directly against Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14:3-20.

What do we do when the Bible says something that doesn't seem just, kind or right (See Titus 2:9,1 Timothy 2:11-12)?

What beliefs do you hold that limit your ability to reach out to people "different" from you?

How do we break the cycle of exclusion?

What has Peter experienced thus far that can help us answer that question?

Now read Acts 10:19-20 and Acts 11:2-3 to discover further steps to take.

What did Peter do? What can we do?

In answer to a caller's question on how to change, to no longer be prejudiced, Heather McGhee, host of "Washington Journal" said, "Get to know black families...We have to get to know who one another actually is."

What will you do to follow Peter's example and Heather's advice?