

## Wednesday

**Read Acts 11:9-14** *Peter called to save “outsiders”*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *The issue of things being clean or unclean was important to the early church. Why did God use food to show Peter how to respond to gentiles?*
2. *What would it be like to know that your whole family could be saved?*

**Prayer Focus** Thank you God, for the gift of the Holy Spirit, our guide in all we do. Thank you for freeing us from our need to divide ourselves from others. Bring us back to you, and back to your family.

## Thursday

**Read Acts 11:15-17** *Let God work*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Have you ever wanted to tell God what to do? Did this change for you?*
2. *If you have the Holy Spirit, are you exempt from the laws of the world?*

**Prayer Focus** Help us live to get out of your way, Holy One. Fill our hearts with the love and compassion you have shown us. Teach us again that we don't have the market cornered on your power or your grace.

## Friday

**Read Acts 11:18** *Grace is for all*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Give thanks to God today for the gift of making us all members of God's family.*
2. *Commit this week to believing and living in the way God has shown. What will you do next to take action on that way?*

**Prayer Focus** We want to be part of the way that leads to life, Redeemer. As your children, as your church, we offer ourselves to you today, so that we can allow you to work through us to create your kingdom now.

## How Can We Hinder God?

**Pastor's message:** *Acts 11:1-18* Let's not our own agenda hinder God's will, but be the one who breaks the wall between and among ourselves.

**Message Notes:**



## Small Group Format

### Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Has there been a time when you broke the rules for a good reason? What was the outcome?*

### Opening Prayer

### Song (optional)

### Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Acts 11:1-18**

- Discuss observations about the text
  - What word or phrase strikes you the most?
  - What do you think is the most important point of the text?

*Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)*

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

### Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?*  
(This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

### Pray for each other

### Refreshments (optional)

## HOW CAN WE HINDER GOD?

**May 15, 2022**

### Monday

**Read Acts 11:1-3** *The disciples challenge Peter*

**Questions for Reflection and Application**

1. *Why was it important not to eat with people who were not Jewish, even if they were part of the church?*
2. *Have you ever felt like an outsider? Are there people you consider to be outsiders?*

**Prayer Focus** Everything and everyone is yours, Creator God. Help us see that the ones we think don't fit into our own comforting circle are also our brothers sisters. Make us willing to widen our boundaries and set aside our limiting labels, for your sake of your greatest gift, Jesus.

### Tuesday

**Read Acts 11:4-8** *Peter's vision*

**Questions for Reflection and Application**

1. *What do you think Peter thought might be the meaning of his vision? Was God testing him?*
2. *What do you think of people who don't "follow the rules" that you obey?*

**Prayer Focus** We like to put things and people into neat boxes and believe that we are managing our lives. But you aren't interested in boxing things in, and we know that we are not in control. Bless us again with the truth.