



The Unstoppable Love

Week Five | Study Guide

Summary

In this sermon from the 'Unstoppable' series, Pastor explores Acts 10, focusing on how God's love breaks down barriers between people. The message centers on Peter's vision of unclean animals and his subsequent visit to the Gentile Cornelius's home - a revolutionary moment when the Gospel crossed cultural boundaries. The pastor emphasizes that God loves all people regardless of background, and Christians are called to do the same, breaking down prejudice and racism through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather to discuss Your unstoppable love that breaks down every barrier, we ask that You would open our hearts to receive what You want to teach us today. Help us to see others as You see them - not through the lens of our prejudices or cultural biases, but through Your eyes of love and grace. May our discussion lead to transformation in how we love others. In Jesus' name, amen.

Ice Breaker

What's a cultural food or tradition that seemed strange to you at first, but that you've come to appreciate after experiencing it?

Key Verses

Acts 10:34-35 | Romans 10:12-13 | Ephesians 2:14 | Acts 10:15 | Romans 3:23

Questions

- In the sermon, we learn that Cornelius was religious, good, and seeking - yet still needed Jesus. How might this challenge our assumptions about who needs the Gospel?
- Peter had to overcome deep cultural prejudices to visit Cornelius's home. What prejudices or biases might we need to overcome to effectively share God's love with others?
- The pastor stated, 'When the walls that divide come down, the heavens will open up.' What examples have you seen of this principle in action?
- How does the Holy Spirit empower us to love people who are different from us in ways we couldn't in our own strength?
- The sermon mentioned that prejudice and racism can be 'generational curses.' How have you seen this in society, and how can the Gospel break these cycles?
- Peter said, 'Who was I to think I could stand in God's way?' (Acts 11:17). In what ways might we unintentionally stand in God's way when it comes to reaching all people?
- The Azusa Street Revival was highlighted as a time when racial barriers came down through the power of the Holy Spirit. What can we learn from this historical example?
- The pastor said, 'You can say no and you can say Lord, but you cannot say no, Lord.' How does this statement challenge your own obedience to God's commands to love others?

Life Application

This week, identify one person or group toward whom you might hold some prejudice or discomfort - whether cultural, racial, socioeconomic, or otherwise. Ask God to help you see them through His eyes. Then take a practical step toward building a bridge: perhaps learning about their culture, inviting them to coffee, or simply engaging in conversation. Remember that God's unstoppable love flows through us when we surrender our biases and allow Him to love others through us.

Key Takeaways

- God loves all people regardless of background, race, or culture, and expects His followers to do the same.
- The Holy Spirit's power enables us to break down walls of prejudice and love people who are different from us.
- When walls of division come down in the church, God's blessing and power are released in greater measure.
- Prejudice and racism can be generational patterns, but they can be broken through the renewing of our minds by God's Word and Spirit.
- The early church's expansion to include Gentiles demonstrates that God's plan always included all peoples, not just one ethnic group.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your unstoppable love that reached across the greatest divide - between Your holiness and our sinfulness - to save us. Forgive us for the times we've built walls instead of bridges, for the prejudices we've harbored, and for the ways we've limited Your work through our biases. By Your Spirit, help us to love as You love, to see others as You see them, and to be agents of reconciliation in a divided world. May our small group be a place where all are welcomed and valued as Your beloved creation. Give us courage to examine our hearts and change our ways where needed. In Your name we pray, amen.