

Welcoming Others in Christ

Acts 10:9 – 15, 30 – 35; Galatians 3:28 - 29

Devotional Reading: Colossians 3:1 - 11

Background Scripture: Ruth 1:1–18; John 4:5–10; Acts 10:1–11:18

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- **Recount** the events of Peter’s interaction with Cornelius
- **Explain** Galatians 3:28 – 29 in light of Acts 10
- **Make a plan** to initiate conversations across the wider family of God to dismantle walls of division

INTRODUCTION: Hospitality was foundational for early Christian evangelism and community. While Jewish travelers could expect hospitality among fellow Jews, Peter’s vision challenges this exclusivity. Racial and social biases disrupt relationships among people. Peter’s vision and Paul’s spiritual revelations in Galatians show God’s impartiality and acceptance of everyone in Jesus Christ.

KEY VERSE: *28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Galatians 3:28

LESSON OUTLINE:

Extraordinary Vision

Acts 10:9 - 15

Eminent Visitors

Acts 10:30 - 35

Equal Value

Galatians 3:28 - 29

SUMMARY: The Book of Galatians has been called the “Magna Charta” of Christian liberty. The Apostle Paul reveals how grace frees the Christian from the law, not that we might sin, but that we would discover a new power for righteous living through faith and the precious Holy Spirit. Paul makes it clear that there is now no advantage in being a Jew rather than a Gentile, a man rather than a woman, a free man instead of a slave. All share the highest social position, membership in the family of God.

QUESTIONS:

1. *Is it a good idea to set specific times each day for prayer? Why or why not?*
2. *How might you increase your enthusiasm toward sharing the good news with your community?*
3. *Who do you struggle to welcome into God’s family by faith? How might you overcome your prejudice?*

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
<i>Mon., Mar. 16th</i>	Souls Bound Together	1 Samuel 18:1 – 5
<i>Tue., Mar. 17th</i>	Abide in God’s Love	1 John 4:7 – 16
<i>Wed., Mar. 18th</i>	Loving God and Each Other	1 John 4:17 – 21
<i>Thur., Mar. 19th</i>	All Peoples Will Worship God	Isaiah 56:3 – 8
<i>Fri., Mar. 20th</i>	Living Together in Unity	Psalms 133 - 134
<i>Sat., Mar. 21st</i>	Children of God Through Faith	Galatians 3:25 – 29
<i>Sun., Mar. 22nd</i>	God Accepts Us All	Acts 10:9 – 15, 30 - 35