

5. Who in your network of friends or acquaintances comes from a cultural or racial background different from your own? How could you reach out in an effort to learn from them? What do you need to keep in mind as a humble learner in the relationship?

Sermon Notes

"Racial Reconciliation and the Gospel"

Various Texts

January 22, 2017

Introduction:

6. Is there anything else that the Lord is prompting you to do in response to this study?

1. Acts 10:1 – 11:18 (p. 1088)

Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

Julie Denker, Family Life Ministry

Pray for biblical wisdom for Julie as she writes and directs radio programming for blended families.

2. Galatians 2:11-14 (p. 1152)

3. Ephesians 2:11-16 (p. 1157)

4. Response

Replacing callousness with compassion

Replacing apathy with empathy.

Replacing disinterested detachment with intentional engagement.

Replacing confident answers with humble questions.

Conclusion:

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 01-22-17

Questions adapted from James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 201-202, 263, 269.

Getting Started:

1. Why is the topic of race relations such a hard topic to discuss?

Digging Deeper:

2. Read Acts 10:9-23. How do you think Peter felt when he was told to kill and eat unclean food? What are some reasons we reject or avoid certain people?
3. In Acts 11:1-3, Peter faced criticism by successfully defending the gospel and racial reconciliation. According to Galatians 2:11-13, there was another occasion when Peter did not. When have you faced criticism associated with racial reconciliation? How did you respond?
4. Read Ephesians 2:11-16. How does the gospel break down religious, racial, and social barriers? (Perhaps also consider Colossians 3:11.)