

How Should Christians Respond to the George Floyd Tragedy?

Acts 10 | June 7, 2020

The Story:

- Cornelius (Roman centurion) has a vision (1-8).
- Peter (Jewish apostle) has a vision (9-23).
- Peter goes to Cornelius' house—wow! (23-33).
- God grants salvation to the Gentiles—wow! (34-48).

Lessons:

1. Know that God shows no favoritism (34-35).
2. Humble yourself to cross barriers (23-33).
3. Love people and share the gospel with them (36-48).

God's Word:

Because God shows no favoritism,

Discussion Questions:

1. What situations in our world might be similar to the Jew/Gentile division of the first century?
2. What are some other biblical passages or truths about God that help us overcome prejudice?
3. Is it more challenging for you to obey the Great Command (love your neighbor as yourself) or the Great Commission (make disciples of all nations)?



Family Toolkit:

Questions for Parents to use with their children:

1. Do you know who George Floyd is? Are you aware of what happened to him? Are you aware of what is happening this week in our country?
2. When it comes to bad things happening in the world, where do they find their origin?
Answer: Genesis 3. Sin and its effects entered into our world when our first parents Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
3. How and when does God promise to remedy all the bad things in the world?
Answer: The remedy begins and ends with Jesus. It began when he came and will find its completion when he returns. God had a plan from the beginning to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and on earth...to the praise of his glory" (Ephesians 1:10-12). So, at just the right time God sent Jesus into the world to live, die, and rise from the dead (Galatians 4:4-5). When Jesus died for our sins, he saved us and all who would believe in him from the penalty and power of sin. When Jesus returns, he will do away with all the bad things in the world (Acts 3:21, Romans 8:18-22).
4. What does reconciliation mean in the Bible? How does it apply to racial reconciliation in our world?
Answer: Reconciliation means to restore to favor. It not only entails forgiveness but the restoration of a broken relationship between God and humanity. It assumes that our relationship with God was damaged by our sin and we needed God to make an exchange to make us right with him. Because we are reconciled to God, the church can be reconciled to one another when sin damages relationships. This points to the good news of Jesus and the healing he brings. When the world sees our love for each other, they see a glimpse of Jesus and that we are his followers Jesus. The world needs to see, hear, and believe the good news of Jesus from the church.
5. How did Peter overcome his prejudice? How does that help us?
Answer: By Seeing God, obeying God, and seeing God work. God appeared to Peter in a vision and he ultimately obeyed God. As Peter walked in obedience, he saw God work in the life of Cornelius and others. We are called to "walk in manner worthy of our calling." By believing and obeying God, it helps us in our fight with sin.
6. How should we as a family respond?