

# RECONCILED



# THE GOSPEL AND RACIAL RECONCILIATION

GALATIANS 2:11-16



# I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM



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- **ANTIOCH WAS A VERY METROPOLITAN CITY AND ETHNICALLY DIVERSE.**



## I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

- **ANTIOCH WAS A VERY METROPOLITAN CITY AND ETHNICALLY DIVERSE.**
- **WHEN PETER FIRST ARRIVED IN ANTIOCH, HE FREELY ATE WITH GENTILES. A BIG DEAL!**



## I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

AND THERE CAME A VOICE TO HIM: "RISE, PETER; KILL AND EAT." BUT PETER SAID, "BY NO MEANS, LORD; FOR I HAVE NEVER EATEN ANYTHING THAT IS COMMON OR UNCLEAN." AND THE VOICE CAME TO HIM AGAIN A SECOND TIME, "WHAT GOD HAS MADE CLEAN, DO NOT CALL COMMON."

ACTS 10:13-15



# I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

**TRULY I UNDERSTAND THAT GOD SHOWS NO PARTIALITY, BUT IN EVERY NATION ANYONE WHO FEARS HIM AND DOES WHAT IS RIGHT IS ACCEPTABLE TO HIM.**

**ACTS 10:34-35**



## I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

- PETER LEARNED FIRSTHAND THAT JESUS DESTROYED THE DIVIDING WALL BETWEEN JEWS AND GENTILES.





## I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

- PETER LEARNED FIRSTHAND THAT JESUS DESTROYED THE DIVIDING WALL BETWEEN JEWS AND GENTILES.
- EATING A MEAL TOGETHER WAS A SIGN OF FRIENDSHIP AND ACCEPTANCE.



## I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

- **PETER EXPERIENCED THE FREEDOM OF THE GOSPEL, EMPOWERING HIM TO CROSS ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS BARRIERS.**



I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL



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- **PETER STOPPED EATING AND ASSOCIATING WITH GENTILE CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.**



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- **PETER STOPPED EATING AND ASSOCIATING WITH GENTILE CHRISTIANS IN ANTIOCH.**
- **CIRCUMCISION PARTY: JEWS WHO TAUGHT THAT UNCIRCUMCISED AND “UNKOSHER” GENTILES COULD NOT BE CHRISTIANS.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- PETER WAS GUILTY OF HYPOCRISY.



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- **PETER WAS GUILTY OF HYPOCRISY.**
- **HOW HE WAS ACTING WAS OUT OF LINE WITH WHAT HE BELIEVED.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **PETER WAS GUILTY OF HYPOCRISY.**
- **HOW HE WAS ACTING WAS OUT OF LINE WITH WHAT HE BELIEVED.**
- **WARNING: HYPOCRISY IS ALWAYS INFECTIOUS.**





## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **PETER'S HYPOCRISY WAS ROOTED IN FEAR.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **PETER'S HYPOCRISY WAS ROOTED IN FEAR.**
- **WHEN OUR FEAR OF PEOPLE IS GREATER THAN OUR FEAR OF GOD,  
OUR CONDUCT WILL BE OUT OF STEP WITH THE GOSPEL.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **FEAR CAN DESTROY THE BEAUTIFUL DIVERSITY AND RACIAL HARMONY IN A CHURCH.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **FEAR CAN DESTROY THE BEAUTIFUL DIVERSITY AND RACIAL HARMONY IN A CHURCH.**
- **BECAUSE OF HIS FEARS, PETER INSISTED THAT GENTILE BELIEVERS ADOPT CULTURALLY FOREIGN CUSTOMS AND LIVE LIKE JEWS.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- WE DO THIS BY GETTING OTHERS TO EMBRACE OUR CUSTOMS IN ORDER FOR THEM TO FEEL ACCEPTED.



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- THE GOSPEL IS A SET OF TRUTH CLAIMS.



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- THE GOSPEL IS A SET OF TRUTH CLAIMS.
- THE GOSPEL HAS SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS FOR *EVERY* AREA OF OUR LIVES.



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- WE MUST SEEK TO BRING OUR MOTIVATIONS, THOUGHTS, ATTITUDES, FEELINGS, AND BEHAVIOR IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL.





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- WE MUST SEEK TO BRING OUR MOTIVATIONS, THOUGHTS, ATTITUDES, FEELINGS, AND BEHAVIOR IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL.
- IMPLICATION OF GOSPEL: WE ALL STAND EQUAL BEFORE GOD, REGARDLESS OF RACIAL BACKGROUND.



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

AND HE [GOD] MADE FROM ONE MAN EVERY NATION OF MANKIND TO LIVE ON ALL THE FACE OF THE EARTH, HAVING DETERMINED ALLOTTED PERIODS AND THE BOUNDARIES OF THEIR DWELLING PLACE.

ACTS 17:36



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ACTS 17:36

- EVERY HUMAN BEARS THE IMAGE OF GOD.



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

THERE IS NEITHER JEW NOR GREEK, THERE IS NEITHER SLAVE NOR FREE,  
THERE IS NO MALE AND FEMALE, FOR YOU ARE ALL ONE IN CHRIST  
JESUS.

GALATIANS 3:28



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **THE GOSPEL DESTROYS ANY SENSE OF SUPERIORITY OR INFERIORITY WITHIN THE CHURCH.**



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- **THE GOSPEL DESTROYS ANY SENSE OF SUPERIORITY OR INFERIORITY WITHIN THE CHURCH.**
- **OUR IDENTITY AS CHRISTIANS OVERSHADOWS AND OVERRIDES ALL OTHER IDENTITIES.**



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- THE GOSPEL, NOT OUR ETHNICITY, IS WHAT UNITES US MOST DEEPLY.



## II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

- **THE GOSPEL, NOT OUR ETHNICITY, IS WHAT UNITES US MOST DEEPLY.**
- **WHEN THAT IS TRUE, WE CAN APPRECIATE AND CELEBRATE OUR DIFFERENCES WITHOUT FEAR.**





I. LEARNING GOSPEL FREEDOM

II. WALKING IN LINE WITH THE GOSPEL

II. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE



### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

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### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- WE MUST BE HONEST ABOUT OUR OWN SIN IN REGARDS TO RACE.
- MAY GOD GIVE US THE COURAGE TO ACKNOWLEDGE PERSONAL SIN AND REPENT.
- AS THE CHURCH, I BELIEVE WE MUST CORPORATELY REPENT.



### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- **PRAY THAT OUR CHURCH FAMILY GROWS IN ETHNIC DIVERSITY SO WE CAN MODEL RACIAL HARMONY AND RECONCILIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY.**



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- **PRAY THAT OUR CHURCH FAMILY GROWS IN ETHNIC DIVERSITY SO WE CAN MODEL RACIAL HARMONY AND RECONCILIATION TO OUR COMMUNITY.**
- **PRAY THAT GOD WOULD HEAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MINORITIES.**



### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- PRAY FOR THE GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS.



### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- WE MUST ALSO BE WILLING TO LISTEN AND LEARN FROM OTHERS WHO ARE CULTURALLY DIFFERENT FROM US.





### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- WE MUST ALSO BE WILLING TO LISTEN AND LEARN FROM OTHERS WHO ARE CULTURALLY DIFFERENT FROM US.
- IT TAKES HUMILITY TO LISTEN TO SOMEONE ELSE'S STORY AND PERCEPTIONS WITHOUT JUDGING, DEFENDING, OR WRITING THEM OFF.



**“FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN RACIALLY PROFILED, RIDICULED BECAUSE OF THEIR SKIN COLOR, OR FELT THE DAILY PRESSURES OF SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION, THEY WOULD DO WELL TO HEAR THE HEARTS OF THE BELIEVERS WHO EXPRESS THEIR PAINFUL EXPERIENCES THAT INCLUDE SUCH DETAILS. EMPATHY IS NOT ALLOWING OURSELVES TO TRAVEL DOWN THE ROAD OF APOLOGIES WHILE ON A GUILT TRIP; RATHER, IT’S AN EXTENSION OF COMPASSION AND SENSITIVITY TOWARD A PERSON WHOSE LIFE EXPERIENCES DO NOT LINE UP WITH OURS.”**

**D. A. HORTON, PASTOR OF REACH FELLOWSHIP**



### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- ONLY THE GOSPEL CAN HEAL US OF OUR PREJUDICE AND PRIDE.



### III. APPLYING THE GOSPEL TO RACE

- **ONLY THE GOSPEL CAN HEAL US OF OUR PREJUDICE AND PRIDE.**
- **ONLY THE GOSPEL CAN BRING LASTING RACIAL HARMONY AND RECONCILIATION.**

