

God's Story Your Story

April 19, 2015

Faith 5 – A pattern for shaping a life of faith



Share:

What was a high point of your day?

Read: Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." Acts 10:15

Talk:

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- What is considered taboo in your community? What has become mainstream that you wish was still taboo? Why?
- How can you honor God in a new way this week? What can you do or refrain from doing to respect God?

Pray:

God of radical transformation, you taught Peter to look at the new world in a whole new way. Teach us to see the world through your eyes, so that we might love and care for all people, for the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Bless:

God who declares grace, move us past differences to see you at work in all people's lives. We need your word today. Help us hear it with open hearts. Amen.

Some Background

This is a wonderful transition from the book of Matthew, that invested time helping the Jewish community to see that Jesus was a fulfillment of their prophecies and the Messiah whom they had waited for, to the book of Acts, that opens God's invitation beyond the Jewish community to anyone who will hear. Peter's resistance to eating unclean food was an indication of his hesitance to welcoming Gentiles. Yet at the end of his vision, God sent exactly the people he needed to meet; the servants and a soldier of a centurion of the Italian Cohort. It was a word from God that Peter had to let go of his old ideas and see the world in a whole new way. Perhaps we too, can begin to let go of our old ideas so that we might see the world through God's eyes.

Follow the stories of early believers and missionaries.

Sunday, Acts 10:1-17, 34-35, *Peter's Vision*

Monday, Acts 10:18-43, *Peter's Vision*

Tuesday, Acts 10:44-48, *Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit*

Wednesday, Acts 11:1-18, *Peter's Report to the Church at Jerusalem*

Thursday, Acts 11:19-30, *The Church in Antioch*

Friday, Acts 12:1-19, *Peter in Prison*

Saturday, Acts 12:20-25, *The Death of Herod*