

# SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 15.06.25

**PREACHER: PS ANDY MAC**

**TO BE CONTINUED...**

## BECOMING CHRISTLIKE

*BEING [HEART], THINKING [MIND] & **DOING [BODY]***

*[A PERSONAL REFLECTION]*

### **Conviction of a Disciple:**

A disciple loves their neighbour with words, works and wonders.

## OVERVIEW

Peter's vision in Acts 11 reveals that the gospel is for all people. But sometimes, it is our own self-righteousness, assumptions, or cultural biases that become the greatest barriers to others receiving that good news.

The Spirit empowers us not just to feel safe, but to walk in obedience and share Christ freely, boldly, and humbly.

## ACTION

**Step 1:** Reflect: Has a sense of "being good" or doing the right things kept you from fully receiving God's grace?

**Step 2:** Commit: Ask the Spirit to make you more aware of His voice and leading—through nudges, Scriptures, impressions, and Godly counsel.

**Step 3:** Act: Don't underestimate small steps of obedience, or wait for a revival - walk to the one place, or the one person that God puts on your heart this week.

# THOUGHT

## SCRIPTURE: Acts 11: 1-18

The story of Acts is not a sequel, it's a continuation. The mission of Jesus didn't pause at His ascension or end at the cross. It carries on through His Spirit-filled people. And in Acts 11, we find a powerful reminder: God's plan to reach all people continues through our obedience.

Peter wasn't given a strategy to reach the Gentile world, he was given a name and an address. And because he responded to the Spirit's prompting and obeyed, we are part of the story today. The gospel was never meant to stop at the borders of what we find comfortable or culturally familiar. It was always meant to move outward, one step of Spirit-led obedience at a time.

But sometimes, it's not opposition that blocks the gospel. It's our own assumptions. Our desire to be "good" can become a quiet idol. Our sense of who is "worthy" can be shaped more by culture than by Christ. And like Peter, we may find ourselves saying, "Surely not, Lord" - only to realise we've been standing in the way of grace all along.

The Greek word *sozo*, to be saved - means more than rescue from sin. It means to be healed, made whole, delivered from the deception that prevents us from receiving grace. And one of the most subtle deceptions is our own sense of goodness. Nicodemus, Saul, Cornelius - each were devout, moral people asking, "What must I do?" Yet all needed Jesus to deliver them from self-reliance into saving grace.

The same is true for us. When it comes to witnessing, many of us swing between yelling at the world or staying safely silent. But Acts 11 shows us a better way: Spirit-led, relational obedience. Peter didn't launch a revival—he walked into one man's home and shared what he knew. That's how movements start. That's how God continues His work—through people simply willing to listen and go.

We're invited to examine our hearts. Who is our "surely not"? Who have we subconsciously written off as unreachable - or unworthy? The gospel is not shaped by our cultural values. In fact, the Spirit often wants to bring those values to light and reshape them entirely. Because Jesus died for all, so that all might come to Him. Let's not call unclean what God has made clean.

Peter's words in verse 17 echo like a warning and a release: "Who was I to think I could stand in God's way?" May we never be the barrier between someone and the love of Christ. And may we stop trying to carry the burden of revival on our own shoulders. God hasn't called us to save the world, but to step into the spaces where He's already moving. The Spirit will break out. We just need to be bold enough to show up.

# DISCUSSION

[A GROUP REFLECTION]

1. When was the last time you felt the Holy Spirit prompt you to speak or act, and how did you respond?
2. How can “being good” become a form of spiritual deception?
3. What role does the Holy Spirit play in shaping how we see others and share our faith?
4. Who is your “surely not,” and what would it look like to bring them before God this week?

# PRAYER

Lord, would you help us become bold believers.

Fall on us afresh - not just to comfort us, but to commission us.

Deliver us from self-righteousness. Burn away the pride that makes us think we can stand in Your way. Give us eyes to see as You see, a heart open to Your grace, and a voice willing to speak Your truth.

May we not shout from a distance or stay silent in fear, but walk in step with You, one conversation, one act of love, one obedient step at a time.

Amen.