**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. August 6, 2017**

**The Gospel of Salvation and Reconciliation**

ACTS 10-11:1-18

**Key truth:** The Gospel of Jesus Christ destroyed the walls of racial tension and segregation.

1. We must be willing to obey God in whatever He

commands us to do.

A. Being uncomfortable is no excuse for

disobedience.

2. God is the one who initiates salvation.

A. We are just vessels he uses to deliver the message.

B. Prayer gets us in tune with God and therefore

receptive to His will.

3. The gospel destroys ethnic prejudices.

A. It is impossible to love God and truly understand

the gospel and remain a racist.

B. God has a Kingdom agenda that supersedes

ethnicities and political parties.

4. Jesus is more important and greater than any

differences we may have.

A. Christian unity gives the church a powerful

witness and voice in a divided world.

B. The Holy Spirit is the one that makes unity

attainable.

**Taking It Beyond the Walls:** Pray that we would see people the way God does. Ask that God’s desire for the nations would motivate us as we share the gospel with people who are not like us.

**Food For Thought**

For the Week of August 6, 2017

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

Read Ephesians 2:11-22:

What tempts people to be prejudiced? (e.g. race, economic status, gender, age, etc.)

How do you relate to people from different religions and races? Is this something Christians are known for doing well or poorly?

Have you been on the receiving end of prejudicial judgments? How did it make you feel? Did it motivate or demotivate you to treat people differently than you were treated?

Are there any habits or patterns from your life before Christ that you need to let go of for the sake of the Kingdom?

Have any assumptions or misconceptions ever kept you from sharing the gospel with someone? How does this story challenge the judgments we make about those outside the kingdom?

What are some practical ways you can reach out to people who are different from you? What is keeping you from taking these steps?