


UNCOMFORTABLE

WEEK 3 STUDY QUESTIONS



Every single one of us knows what its like to deal with uncomfortable people. With uncomfortable people come uncomfortable opinions, conversations and biases. But how are Christ followers called to deal with people we don't get along with?

We will start by looking at the story of Peter going to the house of Cornelius after the Spirit compelled him to go.

Read Acts 10:41-48

Why is it so astonishing to Peter and his friends that the Holy Spirit had been poured out on these Gentiles (non-Jews)?

What was God showing them when He enabled the family of Cornelius to receive His Spirit?

The fact is, it is good news for most of us that God allowed Gentiles into His family. Because most of us were not born Jewish!

Though that is good news to us, maybe you have experienced a time when it seemed like God wanted you to be in fellowship with someone who made you uncomfortable. Can you think of a time in the past when this happened? How did you handle it?

Dealing with church people we don't like is not easy. But it reflects what God says that His Kingdom is like, where every tribe, tongue and nation (people who are all different from each other) worship together.

So how are we supposed to deal with people we don't naturally get along with? If you are in a group, have a different person read each of these verses. If you are on your own, take the time to read each verse and think about how it affects you in regards to community.

Read Romans 14:19, Galatians 6:1, Ephesians 4:32 and James 1:19

Name one actionable thing that we are called to do from each verse.

How have you seen people do the opposite of what these verses say? How has that worked out?

Have you seen people follow the advice of these verses? What was the result?

In the church, we are not simply called to tolerate each other, but to love one another. We actually need one another so that we can grow in our walk with Christ.

Personal Reflection Questions to think about this week:

- Do I avoid uncomfortable people, or do I embrace them so that I can grow?
- When it comes to dealing with uncomfortable people and situations, do I act in accordance with the Scriptures, or with the culture that surrounds me?

Prayer

Father, thank you for the uncomfortable group of people we call the Church. May all of us learn to embrace one another with forgiveness, listening, peace and love. Help me to love others well. May we receive the help and power of the Holy Spirit so we can truly be the people You have called us to be. And may it all be for the honor and glory of You and Your Kingdom. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.