SERMON NOTES

Sunday, October 25, 2026 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

How to Accept the Miracle of the Gospel to the Gentiles

Acts 11:1-18

1. The problem: influential Christians can have a hard time believing a work of God (Acts 11:1-3)

2. The answer: patient explanation, personal divine intervention, and the Holy Spirit (Acts 11:4-17)

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3. The reaction: silence and worship (Acts 11:18)

Table Talk

1) Why were Jewish Christians concerned about Peter? How can traditions entrench us in places that hinder the Gospel? (vv. 1-3)

2) How can patient explanation overcome the objections of traditionalists? (vv. 4-6) What role can divine intervention have in overcoming tradition? (vv. 7-14)

3) What four supernatural events does Peter describe that reveal the breaking out of the Gospel beyond Judaism? What role did the Holy Spirit play in overcoming tradition? (vv. 15-17)

4) Peter describes the opposition by tradition to the breaking out of the Gospel as "standing in God's way". What might be some ways that we could "stand in God's way"? (v. 17)

5) What is the reaction of these Jewish traditionalists to Peter's explanation? Will you pray for a church where, as F.F. Bruce notes, "Their criticism ceased; their worship began"?