



eating
with
enemies

4-WEEK STUDY

PURSUING UNITY IN
A DIVIDED WORLD

WEEK 4

**RACIAL RECONCILIATION AND THE CHURCH:
GOD RECONCILES PEOPLE**





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WEEKLY READING

Primary text from this week: Acts 10:1-22;27-38

GETTING STARTED

Goals for this session: To learn to bring God into our efforts to reconcile with others

Missed the sermon? Watch it at www.youtube.com/venturamissionary

Break the Ice: Describe the city in which you grew up. Would you consider it racially diverse or racially homogeneous?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In this week's sermon, Charles said that God cares for people, *God changes people, God unites people, and God reconciles people*. As you think about the story of Peter in Acts 10 (the passage we studied on Sunday), how do you see God accomplishing each of these four things in this story?
2. Charles also pointed out that most of our current discussions around racial reconciliation center around political strategies or social efforts, but that we often leave God out of the equation. How might those conversations look different if God were the center of the discussion? What implications does that have for us?
3. In your life experiences, what are some ways you have seen people from different racial, ethnic, or social backgrounds come together? What was that like?
4. Have someone in the group read **Genesis 1:26-28**. Why is this passage so important in forming the way we view people who are different from us?
5. Have someone in the group read **Galatians 3:26-28**. How do you think Paul's first audience would have reacted to this passage? How can we understand and apply this passage today?
6. Have someone in the group read **Revelation 7:9-10**. Why is it significant that there are people in heaven from every nation, tribe, people, and language? Why is it significant to note that—even in heaven—people maintain their cultural and ethnic diversity?
7. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. famously called 11:00 am on Sunday morning as "the most segregated hour of America." Has your experience supported this statement? What can the Church do to break down racial barriers in the Church? What can the Church do to break down racial barriers in society?

