The Acts of the Risen Lord Jesus: Which party are you going to?

Pastor Daniel Olson Text: Acts 11 (CSB)

A critical spirit will make you miss the Jesus party. (Acts 11:1-3)

Sometimes we need to stop trying to control, and start praising God. (Acts 11:15-18)

God is writing a new chapter: Building a unified body out of wildly different people. (Acts 11:19-26)

God has given gifts to the church: me and you! (Acts 11:27-30)

Food for Thought for the week of August 28, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study and discussion.)

- 1. In what ways can you identify with the "circumcision party?" Have you ever found that your strong beliefs or opinions have actually led you away from God's truth? How did God change your heart? How can we continue to be humble and teachable?
- 2. How do you tend to interact with others? Is your first inclination to criticize or is it to love? How can we become more Christ-like in our relationships?
- 3. Who are you "sent" to? Think about people you interact with regularly. What would be one step you could take to be a missionary to them?
- 4. Ephesians 4 mentions five giftings God gives to people to build up the church: Shepherd, Evangelist, Apostle, Prophet, and Teacher. We see people using these gifts throughout the book of acts. These gifts may not be familiar to you, but how do you see yourself being gifted by God to build up the church? How are you uniquely wired to love and encourage others?

Memory Verse

Acts 11:18 When they heard this they became silent. And they glorified God, saying, "So then, God has given repentance resulting in life even to the Gentiles."