

Radical Hospitality: Breaking Cultural Barriers

Acts 11:1-18

GRACE

Undeserved Kindness



Cornelius

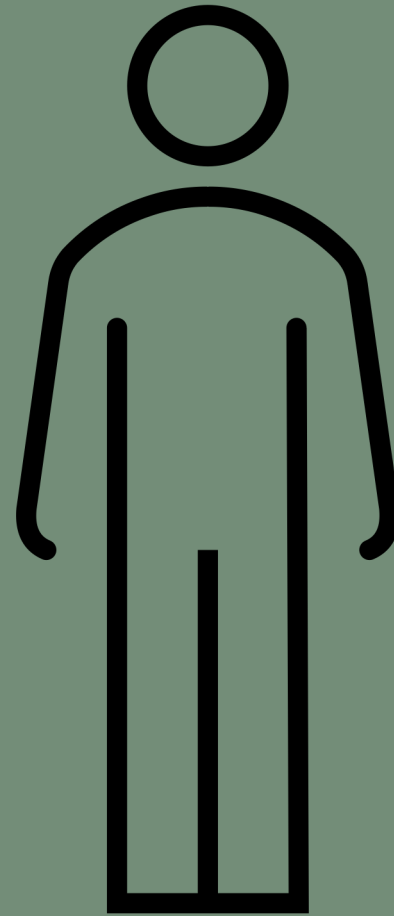
The apostles and the
believers throughout Judea
heard that the Gentiles also
had received the word of
God.- Acts 11:1

So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers **criticized him** and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.” – Acts 11:2-3

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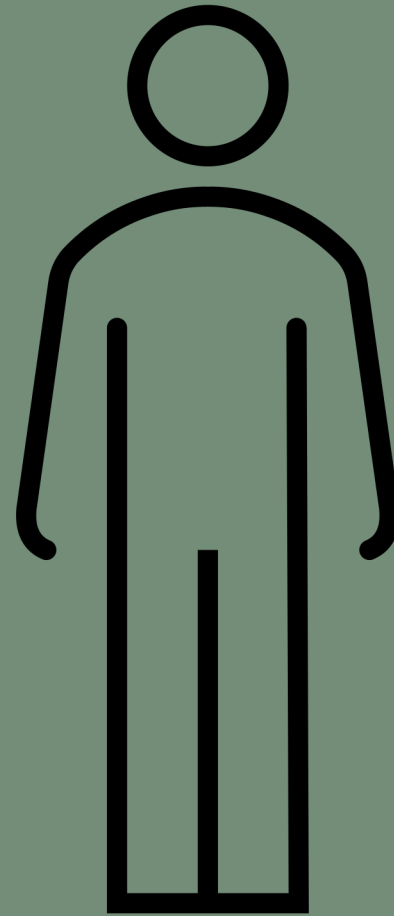
Jew



Gentile



Jew



Gentile

I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. – Acts 11:5-6

Then I heard a voice telling me,
'Get up, Peter. **Kill and eat.**'
– Acts 11:7

I replied, 'Surely not, Lord!
Nothing impure or unclean
has ever entered my mouth.'

– Acts 11:8

The voice spoke from heaven
a second time, 'Do not call
anything impure that God has
made clean.' – Acts 11:9

This happened **three times**,
and then it was all pulled up
to heaven again. – Acts 11:10

Right then **three men** who
had been sent to me from
Caesarea stopped at the
house where I was staying.

– Acts 11:11

As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them **as he had come on us** at the beginning. – Acts 11:15

Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

– Acts 11:16

Discerning God's Will

Personal Encounter

Discerning God's Will

Personal Encounter

Other Witnesses

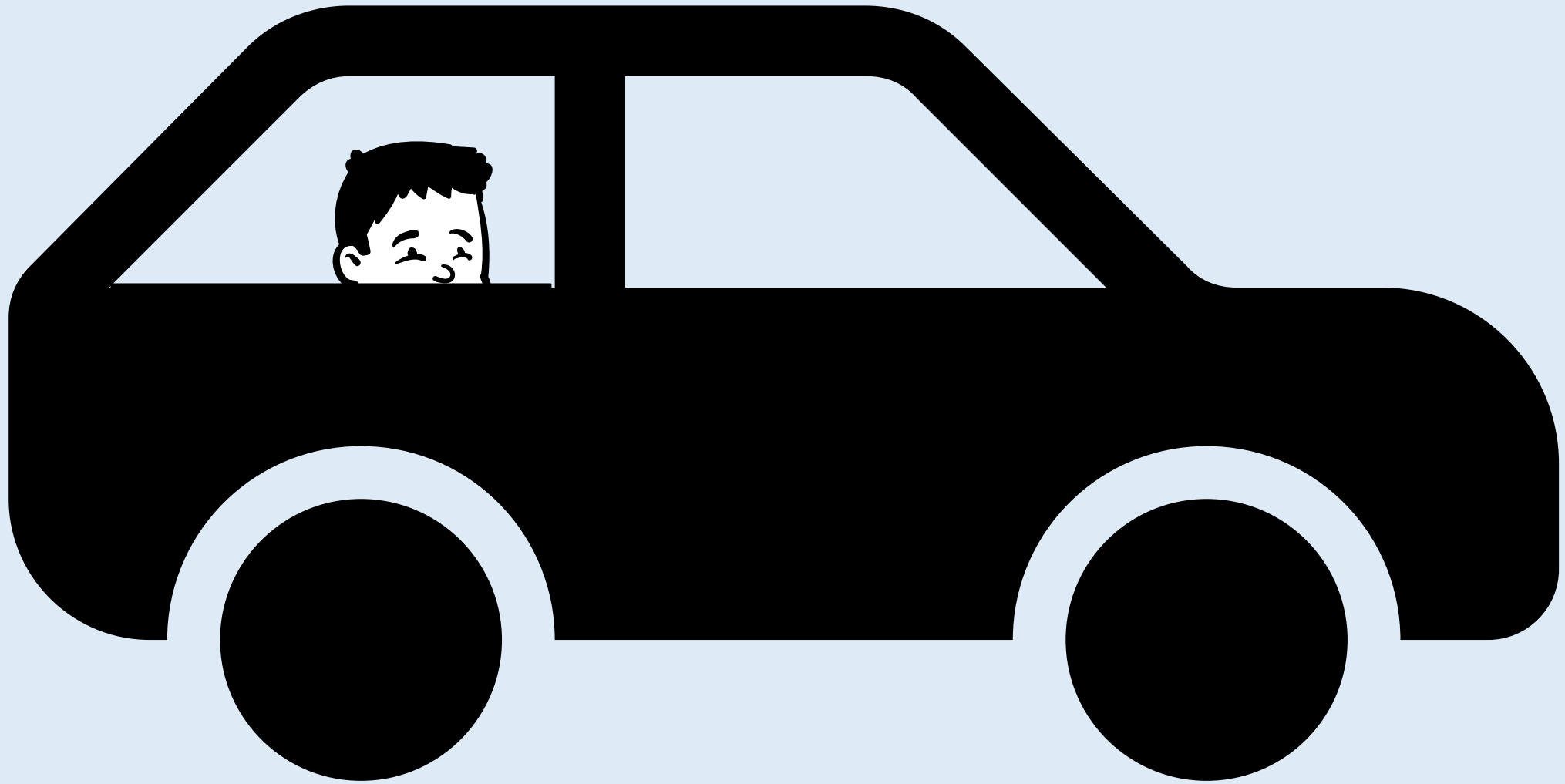
Discerning God's Will

Personal Encounter

Other Witnesses

Word of God

When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.” – Acts 11:18



PREJUDICE

negative attitude or feeling
towards a group of people who are different

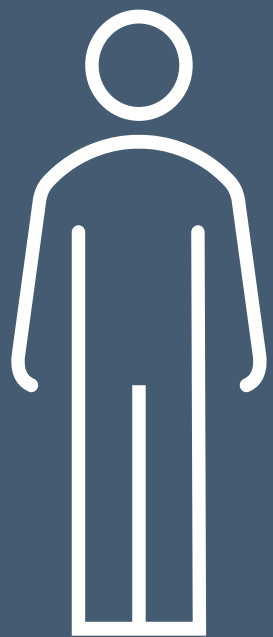
So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the **circumcised believers** criticized him and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.” – Acts 11:2-3



Gentile



Jew



Gentile



Jew



The Goodness Scale



GRACE

Undeserved Kindness

Living by grace instead of by works means you are free from the performance treadmill. It means God has already given you an “A” when you deserved an “F”... You are loved and accepted by God through the merit of Jesus, and you are blessed by God through the merit of Jesus. Nothing you ever do will cause Him to love you any more or any less. He loves you strictly by His grace given to you through Jesus. — Jerry Bridges

The solution to this problem is not to add legalism to grace. Rather, the solution is to be so gripped by the magnificence and boundless generosity of God's grace that we respond out of gratitude rather than out of a sense of duty. — Jerry Bridges

In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome – 1 John 5:3

Truth



Grace



Truth



Grace



Time





Truth

Grace

Time

**You will never grow.
You will never change.
You will remain stuck.**

Truth

Grace



Time

**You will be discouraged
and broken.**

Truth

Grace

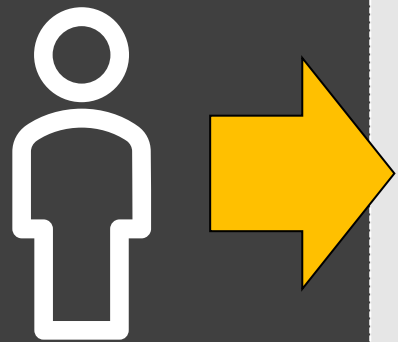
Time



**You will have a vision,
and then not reach
completion.**

Radical Hospitality

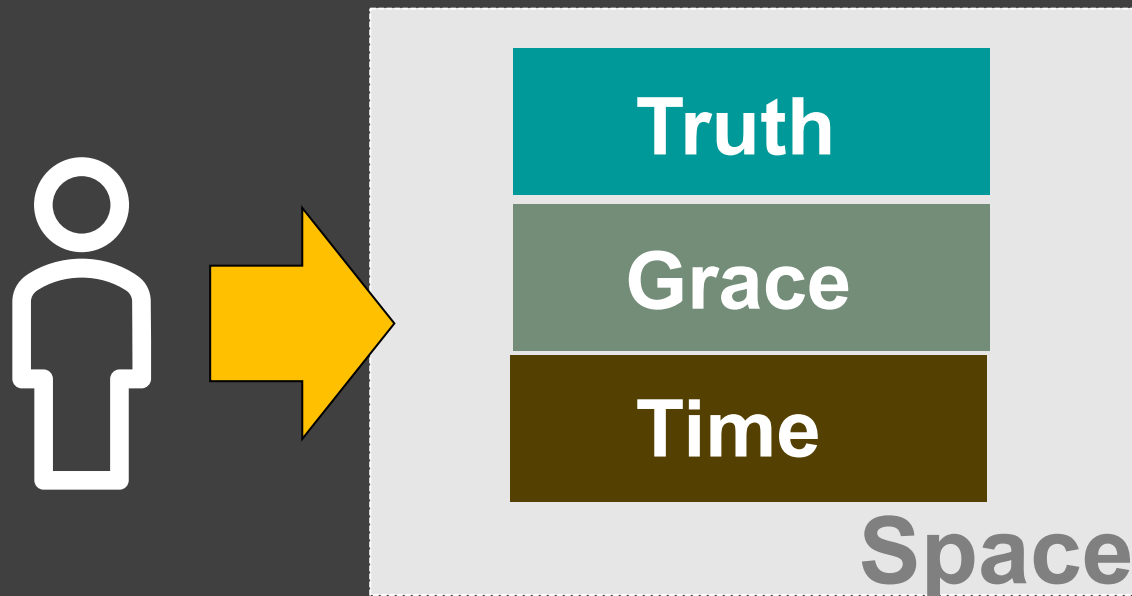
Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can take place. It is not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by dividing lines. – Henri Nouwen



Space

Radical Hospitality

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