

Acts 11 from [The Message](#)

11 ¹⁻³ The news traveled fast and in no time the leaders and friends back in Jerusalem heard about it—heard that the non-Jewish “outsiders” were now “in.” When Peter got back to Jerusalem, some of his old associates, concerned about circumcision, called him on the carpet: “What do you think you’re doing rubbing shoulders with that crowd, eating what is prohibited and ruining our good name?”

4-6 So Peter, starting from the beginning, laid it out for them step-by-step: “Recently I was in the town of Joppa praying. I fell into a trance and saw a vision: Something like a huge blanket, lowered by ropes at its four corners, came down out of heaven and settled on the ground in front of me. Milling around on the blanket were farm animals, wild animals, reptiles, birds—you name it, it was there. Fascinated, I took it all in.

7-10 “Then I heard a voice: ‘Go to it, Peter—kill and eat.’ I said, ‘Oh, no, Master. I’ve never so much as tasted food that wasn’t kosher.’ The voice spoke again: ‘If God says it’s okay, it’s okay.’ This happened three times, and then the blanket was pulled back up into the sky.

11-14 “Just then three men showed up at the house where I was staying, sent from Caesarea to get me. The Spirit told me to go with them, no questions asked. So I went with them, I and six friends, to the man who had sent for me. He told us how he had seen an angel right in his own house, real as his next-door neighbor, saying, ‘Send to Joppa and get Simon, the one they call Peter. He’ll tell you something that will save your life—in fact, you and everyone you care for.’

15-17 “So I started in, talking. Before I’d spoken half a dozen sentences, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as he did on us the first time. I remembered Jesus’ words: ‘John baptized with water; you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So I ask you: If God gave the same exact gift to them as to us when we believed in the Master Jesus Christ, how could I object to God?”

18 Hearing it all laid out like that, they quieted down. And then, as it sank in, they started praising God. “It’s really happened! God has broken through to the other nations, opened them up to Life!”

Deep Sheet

Religion has no business trying to out-condemn God. We are called to love one another. Let’s be real disciples who accept everyone and love each other.

Who is difficult for you to accept?

What was the lesson that Peter had to learn?

Why couldn’t Peter eat pork, rabbit or lobster?

What is the “new command” of Jesus?

Other Notes

May Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Prayer	Old Testament	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Su	1 Corinthians 8	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 22	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Mo	1 Corinthians 9	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 23	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Tu	1 Corinthians 10	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 24	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	We	1 Corinthians 11	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 25	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	Th	1 Corinthians 12	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 26	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	Fr	1 Corinthians 13	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 27	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	Sa	1 Corinthians 14	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 28	<input type="checkbox"/>
25	Su	1 Corinthians 15	<input type="checkbox"/>		Job 29	<input type="checkbox"/>



Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:

A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

B. BIBLE:

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

LAKETON BETHEL CHURCH

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Sherwin’s Ten Reasons for Going to Church Every Sunday

- 1. Renew**
Everyone goes through times where enthusiasm for life melts away. We all have times where our faith diminishes. Worship on Sunday renews faith and energizes attitudes for all of life.
- 2. Laugh**
Yes. We laugh. Humor is a valuable part of worship. Most of it is unplanned. Sherwin’s brother told him years ago that: “People aren’t laughing at you because you’re funny, they are laughing because you are so stupid...”
- 3. Pray**
Face it. You don’t pray much. Church services remind you of the importance of prayer. They jump start your prayer life. You learn more about prayer. When your family is with you, they see you praying and that is an example that changes lives.
- 4. Sing**
Songs of faith can move mountains of despair. You probably won’t like all the songs. But some of them will change your life.
- 5. Help**
You will often find ways to help in your community. When you help, it reduces inherent narcissism. You think less of yourself and more of others. You become more grateful for what you have. You become a better person and a happier one.
- 6. Give**
Yes. Put in some money. Do something with your cash for God instead of for yourself. Don’t expect anything back and you will be surprised at how blessed you are. We all waste money. Here you have an opportunity to do something positive with it.
- 7. Meet**
Connect with other people. Laketon Bethel accepts everyone, including you. Many friendships are made on a regular basis. We have great coffee and cookies, which help in all sorts of discussions.
- 8. Learn**
The guy up front is trained and experienced and often knows what he is talking about. You will learn something every Sunday.
- 9. Grow**
When you put what you learn into practice, you will find positive changes in your life. You will have unstoppable growth in ways you don’t always expect.
- 10. Jesus**
The church exists because of Jesus. When you participate in it regularly, he is pleased. One day you will meet him face-to-face. If you regularly connect with him through weekly worship services, that meeting will be happy.

Announcements
Jr. High J.A.M. This is the final month of Junior High J.A.M.
Unity Christian Music Festival August 6th-9th Church Tickets are on sale through TODAY. See Heather Wilke or call at 231-215-8593 for questions or to purchase tickets.

Whether you are visiting for the first time or looking for a church home, please stop by our welcome table in the entryway. Our friendly volunteers are eager to greet you or answer any questions. We would love to connect with you!

Service Opportunities
Sunday School Totes We are in need of 60 totes to reorganize Children’s Church Supply Closets. The approximate size is 18x12x7. If interested in donating cash or totes, please see Ed Luzadder.
Nursery Help Needed We are looking for Nursery help for the Second Service. If you are interested, please see Tina or Sally.

LBRC Kids Library The Library for Kids has books available for borrowing. The Book display is found across from the Nursery. Stop today and pick up a book to help brighten a child’s life!

Sacred Suds Sacred Suds is an organization that helps the homeless. It offers showers, laundry, technology and housing by appointment. For any questions, please see Lois Cordle or

Volunteers
1st Service Coffee Server: Ed Kawaleski
2nd Service Coffee Server: Mark Gaultney
1st Service Nursery: Joann Petroski
2nd Service Nursery: Cyndie Bingaman / Melissa Wynsma

Special Senior: Ardie Pulsipher
Please sign the cards located on the table in the entryway.

Order of Worship-9:00am
Gathering Song
“I’m Standing on the Solid Rock”
Call to Worship
“The Solid Rock”
Welcome & Announcements
Congregational Prayer
Worship in Song
“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”
“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”
“Be Still, My Soul”
Crosstalk - “What God Calls Clean”
Offering
“We Fall Down”
Benediction
“Glory Be to the Father”



Order of Worship-11:00am
Gathering Song
“Made to Worship”
Call to Worship
“Let It Rise”
Welcome & Announcements
Congregational Prayer
Worship in Song
“Jesus, You Gave It All”
“God So Loved”
Crosstalk - “What God Calls Clean”
Offering
“So Will I”
Benediction
“Salt & Light”