

We are Church

We are Inclusive

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DRBM_YY_YX0

Scriptures quoted: Rom. 5:8; 15:7; Luke 15:1-2; Gal. 3:28; Matt. 27:51; Acts 1:8; 10:1-15

1. What kinds of divisions were found in the ancient Jewish world? In which ways did Jesus model inclusion in a society full of segregation and exclusion? [list all the ways that he reached out to excluded groups]
2. In which way was the Jewish Temple right at the centre of systemic exclusion?
3. Read Acts 10:1-15. What was God communicating to Peter through this vision? Why was this lesson so important? What great truth did Paul communicate in Gal. 3:28?
4. What does it mean to be an inclusive church? Who were ancient Jewish society's 'untouchables'? Who are ours?
5. Why could an inclusive church become a messy church?
6. Does unconditional love and welcome mean that 'anything goes' and a suggestion that our church doesn't have any standards?
7. Do you think that our church should encourage a 'believing before belonging' or a 'belonging before believing' culture? What is the difference, and why does it matter?
8. Why is Tony Campolo's story of Agnes' birthday party so impactful? If you were asked the same question he was asked: What church do you belong to? How would you answer?