

# Wildfire – Fire Can Bring Life

## Weekend Discussion Questions

June 14-15, 2014

### Community:

1. If a fire got out of control in the woods by your house and you were the only one trying to put it out, what would you do?

### Core:

1. To review from last week: What are some of the reasons that the early church spread so quickly in the face of persecution?
2. What do you remember about Ananias in last week's chapter? Why is Ananias' role in Saul's life so important?
3. This week we are going to look at a story in Acts 10 about Peter going into the house of a "Gentile" (non-Jew), which was extremely significant at this time in the early church—why do you think Peter doing this was such a big deal?
4. Read Acts 10:9-14. Why was the thought of eating these animals such a big deal to Peter?
5. Why do you think the cleanliness laws (about what to eat, what to wear, who to socialize with) were in the Old Testament in the first place?
6. Now read verses 14-16. How is what the voice tells Peter significant? How could that tie in with what Jesus says in Matthew 15:17-20?
7. Now read verses 17-20. What do you think Peter is thinking at this point?
8. Skip down and read verses 25-29. How would the Christians back in Jerusalem react to this news? What type of reverberations would this have within the early church?
9. Paul (who used to be Saul) expands on this in Galatians 3:27-29. What does this verse tell us?

### Challenge:

1. Jim gave three takeaways from this section—take some time to discuss as a group what each point means to you:
  - a. God changed (fulfilled) the laws that determined if a person was clean or not clean based on what happened on the outside moving inside. He did not change the laws based on the inside moving out.
  - b. Why are so many Christians so hesitant or afraid to offer the same grace to others that they have received themselves? Rather than try to limit God's grace to a few, how much better it is to extend it to many?
  - c. Even though we know that God has given us grace, why is it so hard to give grace to ourselves? What would it look like if we believed, "I'm forgiven...now I need to forgive myself?"