

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility

Acts 10:9-43

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⁹The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. ¹⁰And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance ¹¹and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth.

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¹²In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. ¹³And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." ¹⁴But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." ¹⁵And the voice came to him again a second time, "What God has made clean, do not call common." ¹⁶This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven.

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¹⁷Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate ¹⁸and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there.

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¹⁹And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. ²⁰Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them.”

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²¹And Peter went down to the men and said, “I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?” ²²And they said, “Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.”

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²³So he invited them in to be his guests. The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him.

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²⁴And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him.

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²⁶But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am a man.” ²⁷And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. ²⁸And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean.

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²⁹So when I was sent for, I came without objection. I ask then why you sent for me.” ...

³³“So I sent for you at once, and you have been kind enough to come. Now therefore we are all here in the presence of God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”

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³⁴So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

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³⁶As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed:

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³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,

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⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

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⁴²And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name...”



PURSUING CHRIST TOGETHER

Acts 10:9-43

Narrative structure (10:1 – 11:18)

- Two visions
- Two journeys
- Two speeches
- Two confirmations

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “There came a voice” (v. 13)

Humility listens to God's voice.

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “Peter was inwardly perplexed” (v. 17)

Humility leaves room for disorientation.

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “I have sent them” (v. 20)

Humility recognizes God's work beyond our expectations.

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality”
(v. 34)

Humility resets our expectations.

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “As for the word that he sent to Israel... you yourselves know what happened” (vv. 36-37)

Humility doesn't shy away from the truth.

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “The Holy Spirit fell on all who heard... even on the Gentiles” (v. 45)

Humility opens doors to more of God's work.

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

I. Pictures of Humility

- “They asked him to remain for some days” (v. 48)

Humility opens doors to genuine relationship.

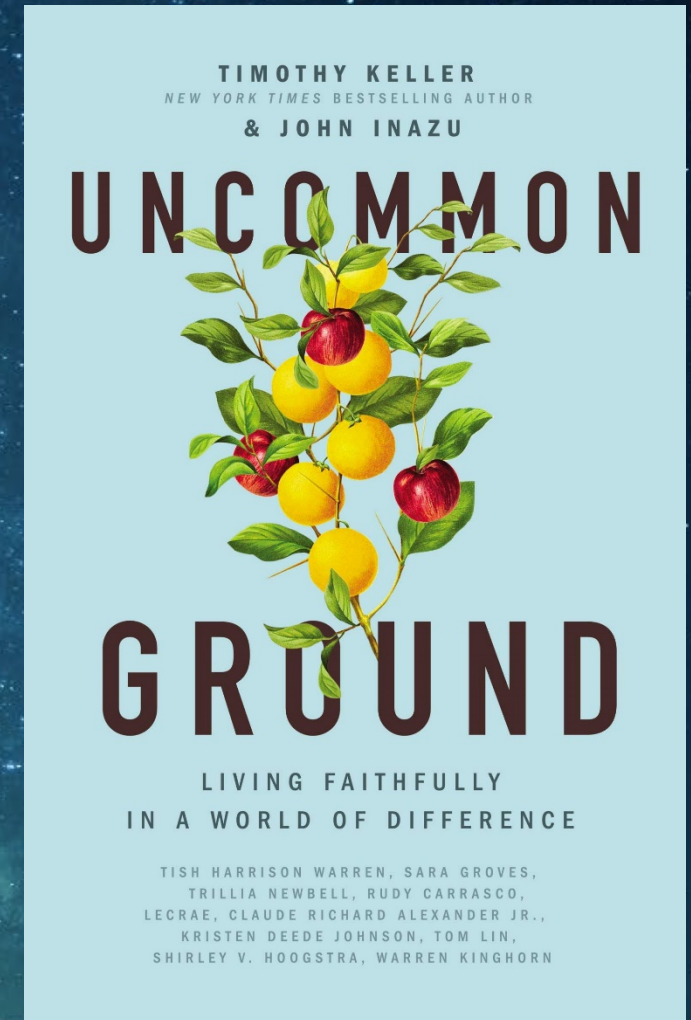
The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

II. Practices for Humility

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference

Timothy Keller & John Inazu
(Thomas Nelson, 2020)

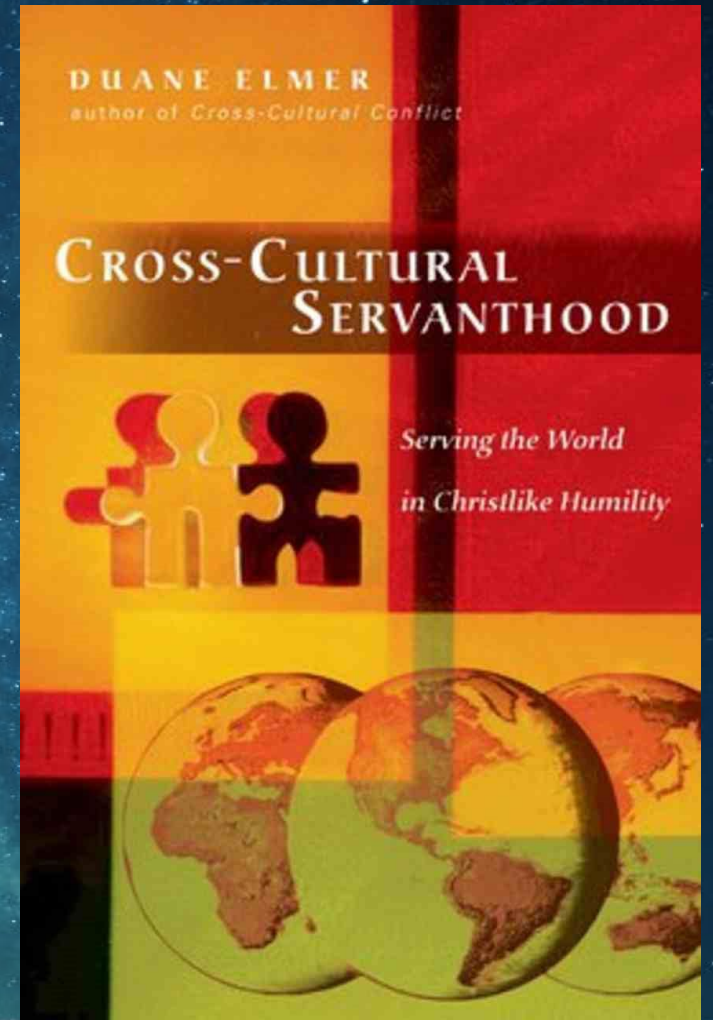


PURSUING CHRIST TOGETHER

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

***Cross-Cultural Servanthood:
Serving the World in Christlike
Humility***

by Duane Elmer (IVP, 2006)



The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

II. Practices for Humility

Openness
Acceptance
Trust

Learning (about, from, with)
Understanding
Serving

The Gospel's Bridge Is Humility (Acts 10)

III. Power for Humility