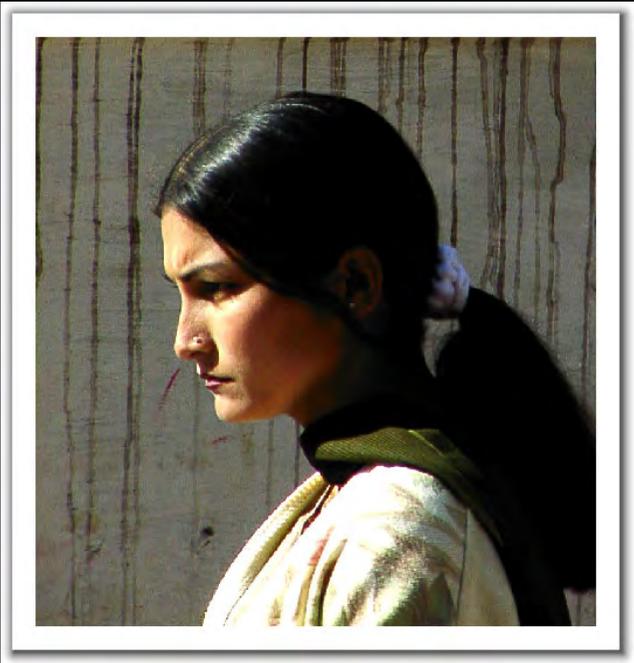


Implementing Change



Change

◆ It's all around us

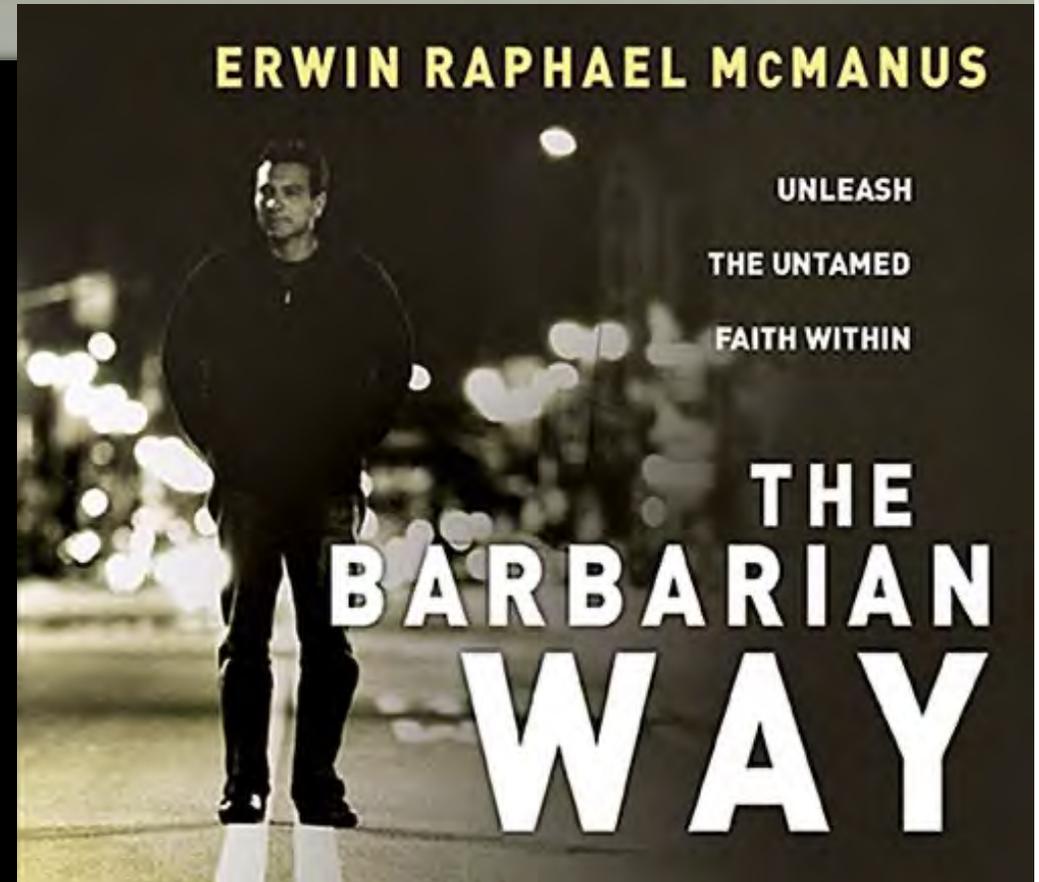


MOSAIC

a community of faith, hope, and love



Erwin McManus



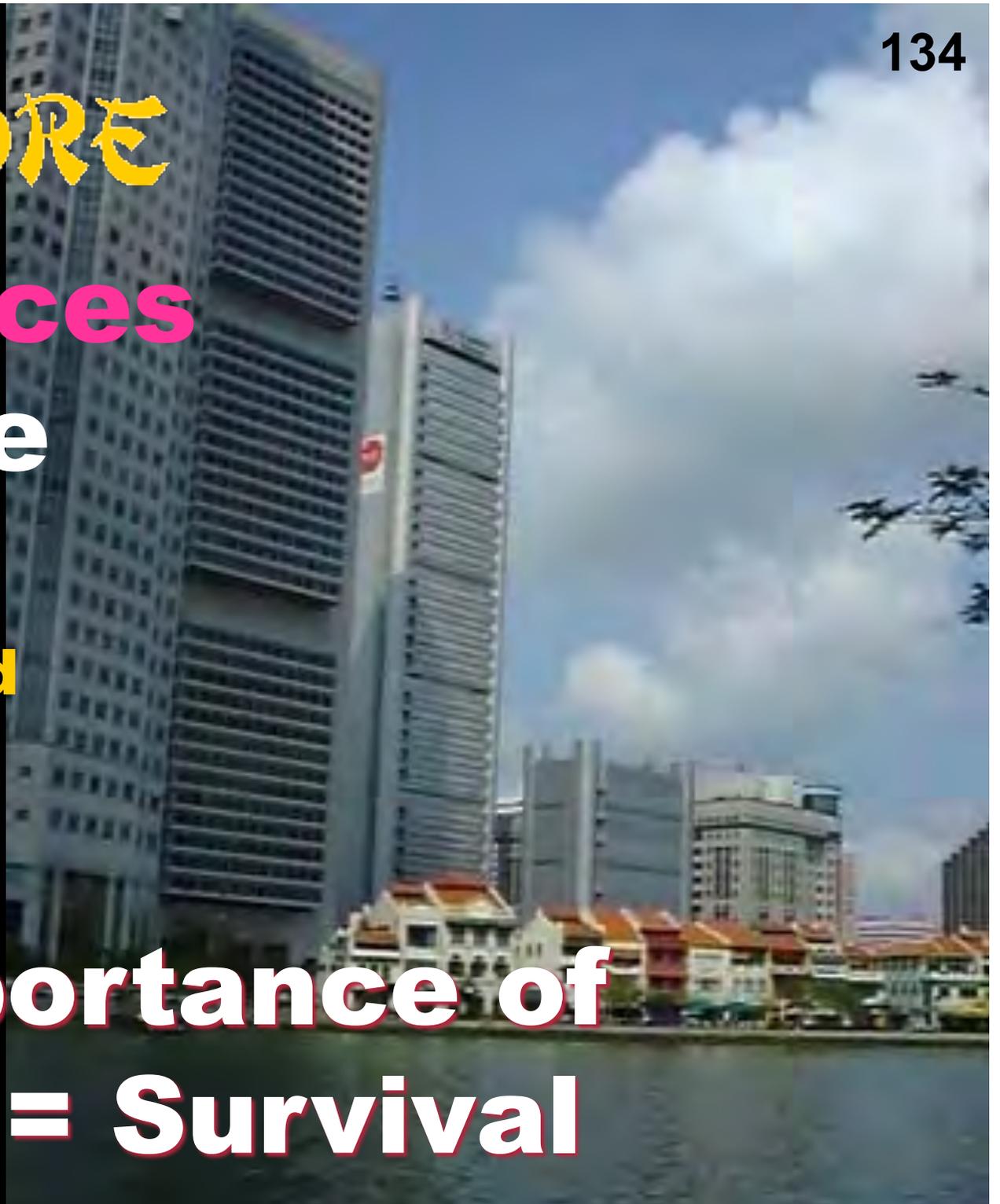
An Unstoppable Force

Pastor of Mosaic (a contemporary church in LA)

SINGAPORE embraces change

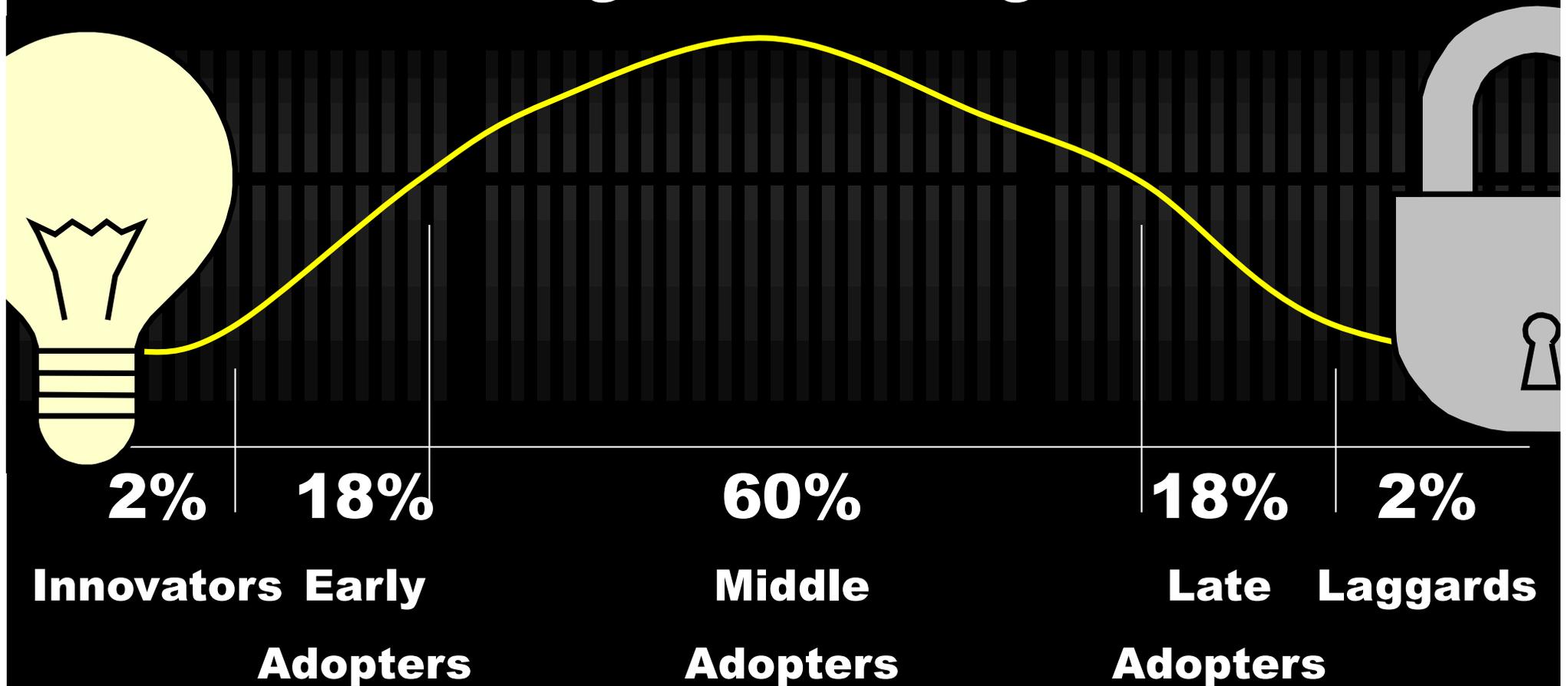
- **Kiasu**
- **EZ-Link card**
- **Upgrading**

**The Importance of
Change = Survival**



Crisis & Change

✓ Are You *Eager* for Change?



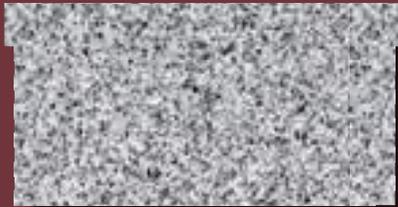
Principles for Making Change from Acts 10: Why must we *eagerly* embrace change?



Some Background...

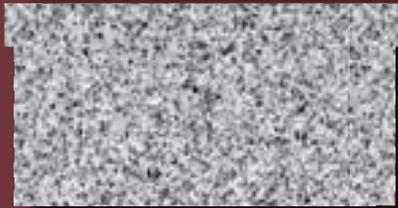
- Gentiles entered the Jewish church
- Jews hated Gentiles for centuries

Whites



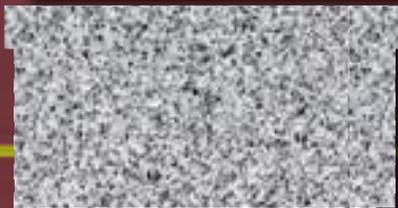
Blacks

Chinese



Malays

Jews

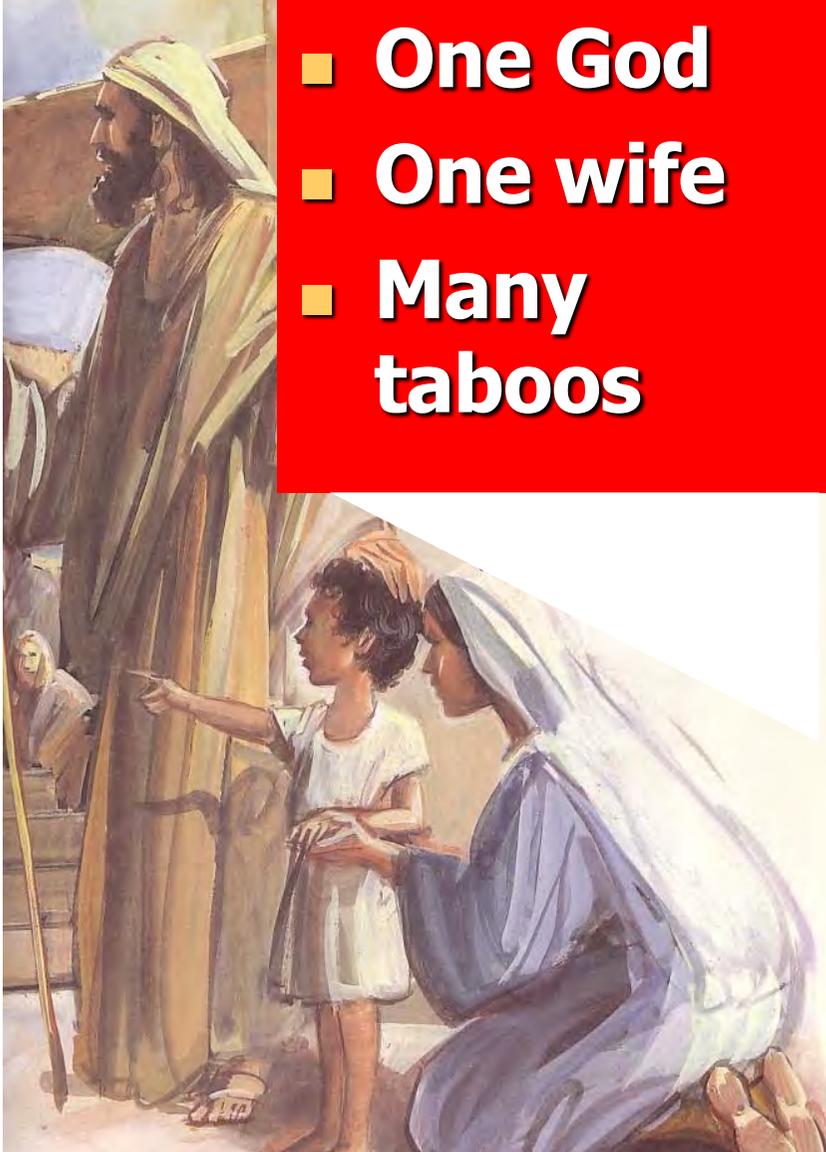


Gentiles

What Were the Ethnic Differences?

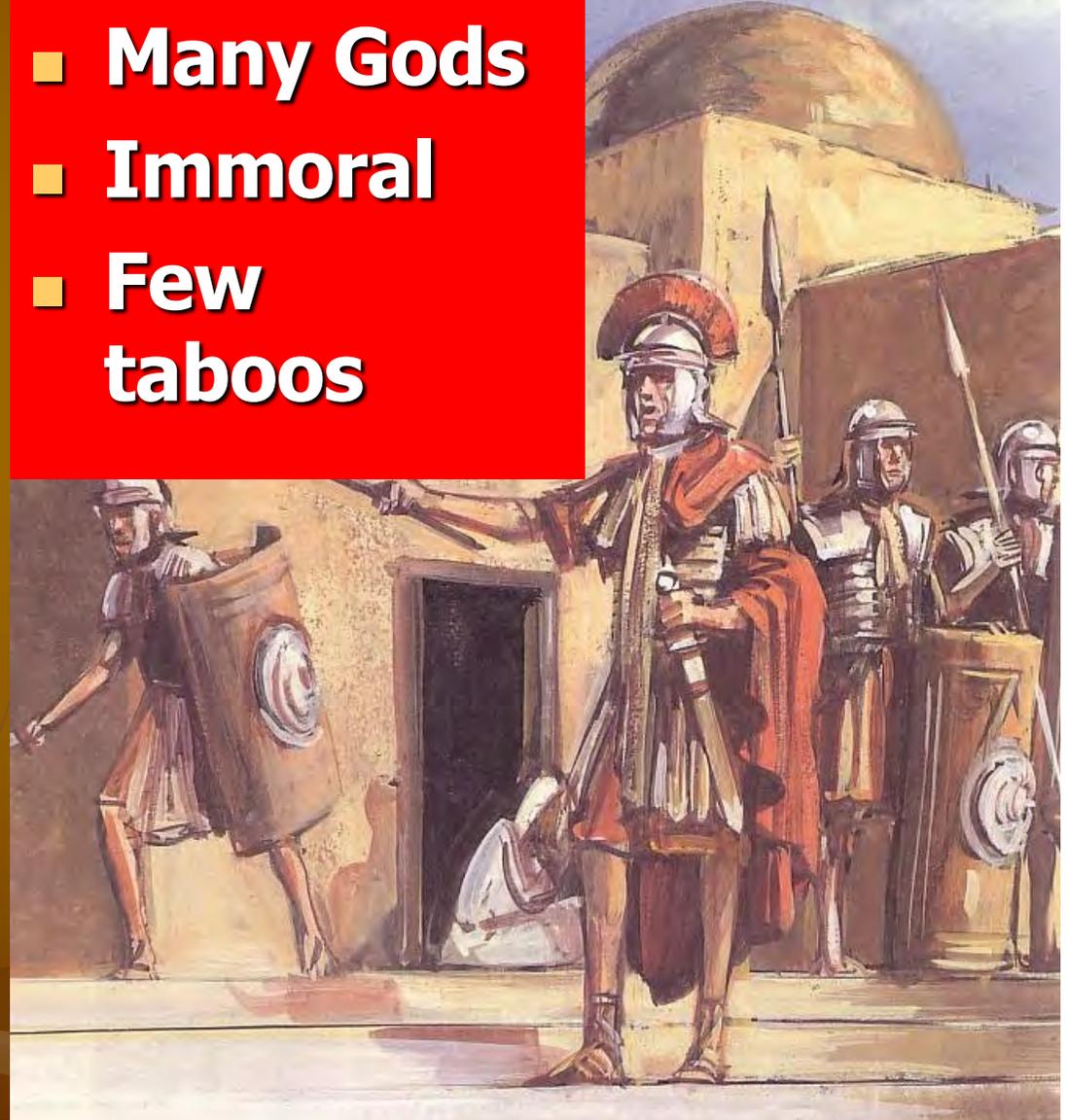
Jews

- One God
- One wife
- Many taboos



Gentiles

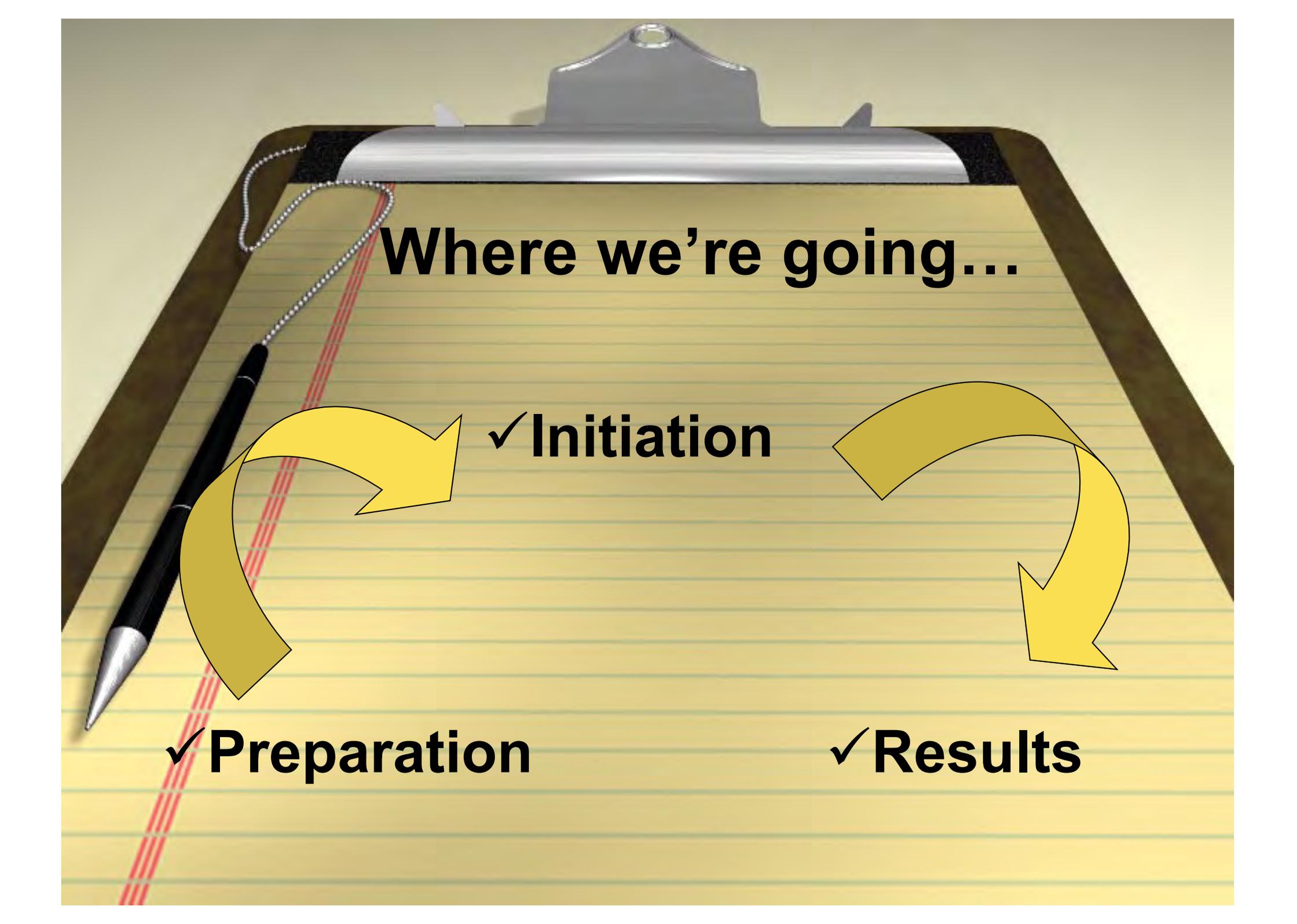
- Many Gods
- Immoral
- Few taboos



“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in **Jerusalem, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria** and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8)**

Up to Acts 9:32





Where we're going...

✓ Initiation

✓ Preparation

✓ Results

**1. God always prepares
his people for change**



a. God prepared the Jewish church to include Gentiles (9:36–10:16).

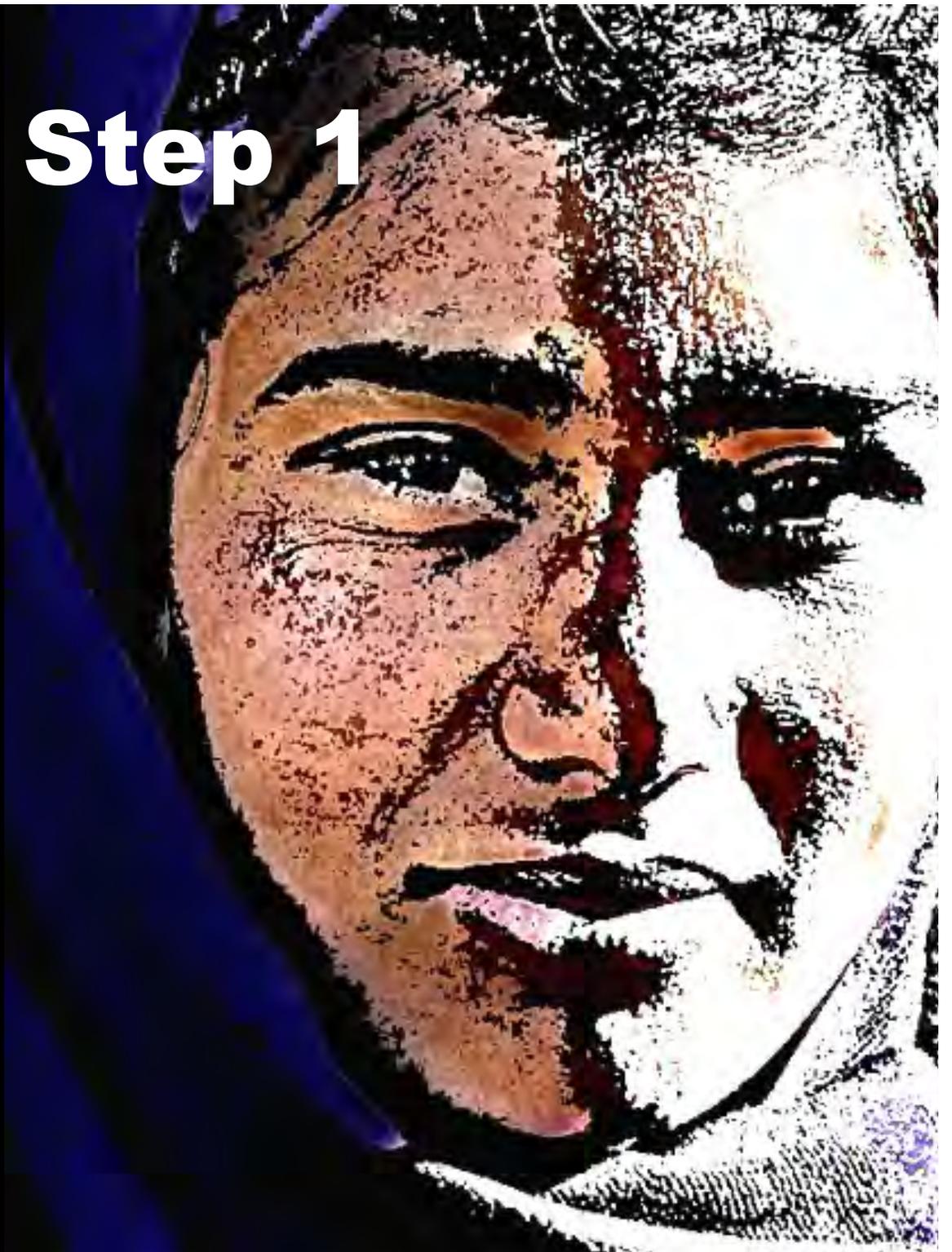


Three Waves of Change...

- God prepared Peter
- God prepared Cornelius
- God prepared Peter further

Peter Prep: Step 1

- **Ministry to Samaritans**



Peter Prep: Step 2

- **Live with the tanner by the sea**

Joppa

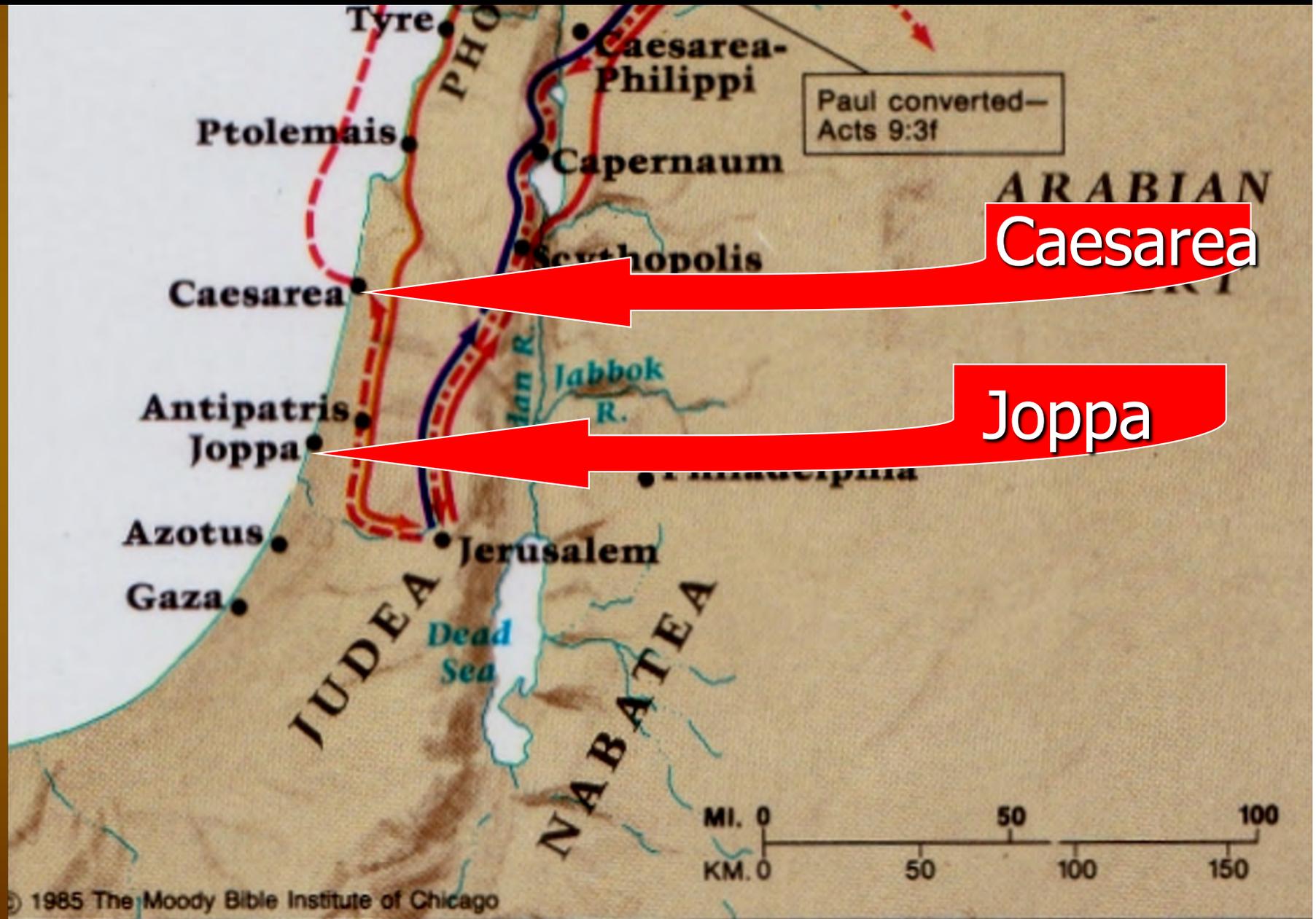




**“Woe to him who is a
tanner by trade”**

- ***The Jewish Babylonian Talmud***

Peter was not like Jonah at Joppa



Cornelius Prep



- ✦ Alms & prayers
- ✦ Vision

“What’s God going to do to these unclean men?”



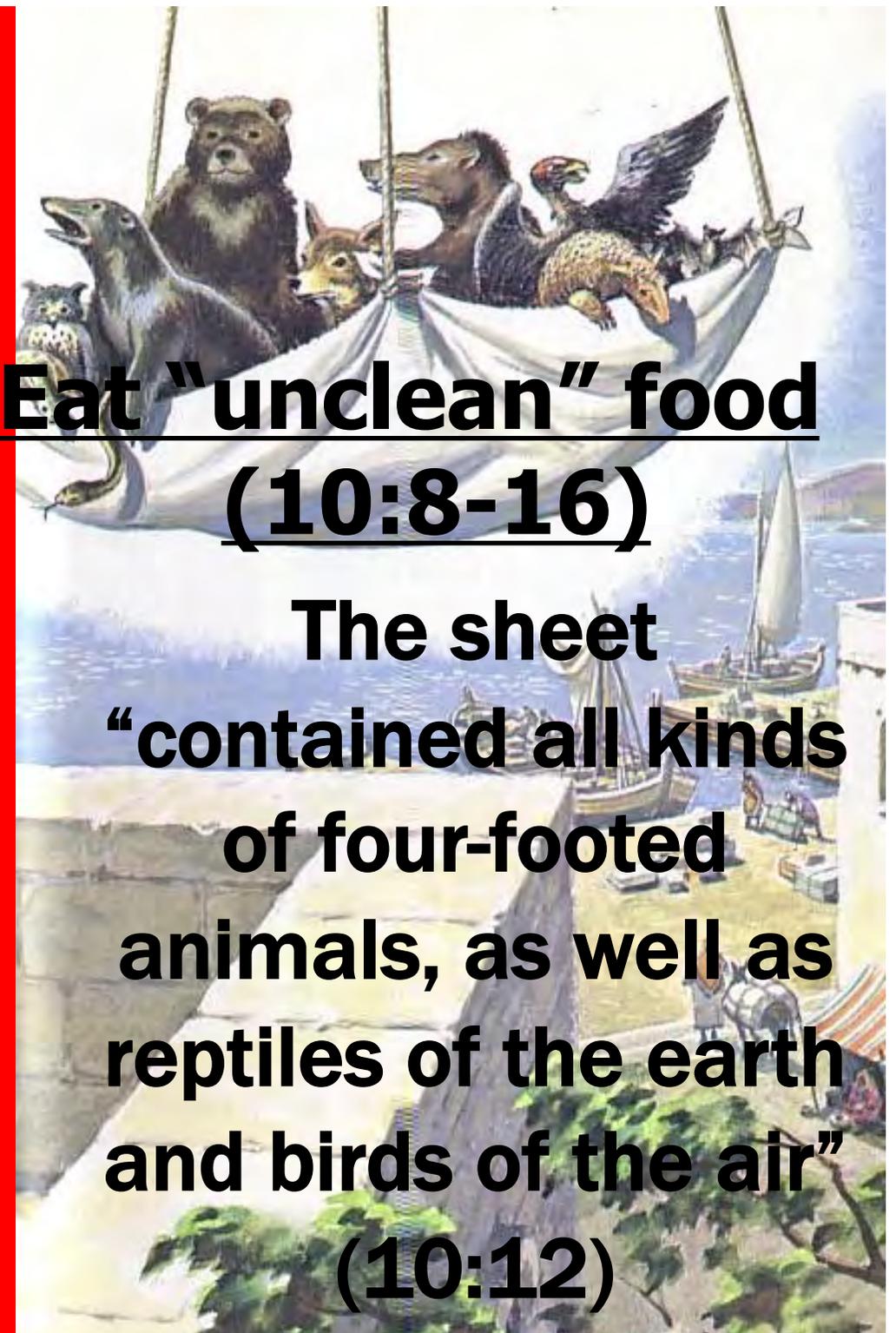
Peter must have wondered why God wanted him to go with the servants of Cornelius

Peter Prep: Step 3

“Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!”

Eat “unclean” food
(10:8-16)

The sheet
“contained all kinds
of four-footed
animals, as well as
reptiles of the earth
and birds of the air”
(10:12)



What foods?

Camel, rabbit, bacon, ham, snake, and the eagle, vulture, raven, certain kites and owls, the gull, any kind of hawk, the stork, any kind of heron, and the bat.

Leviticus 11



**b. God is
preparing us for
change today too!**

**1. God always prepares
his people for change**



2. God **initiates** the change himself.

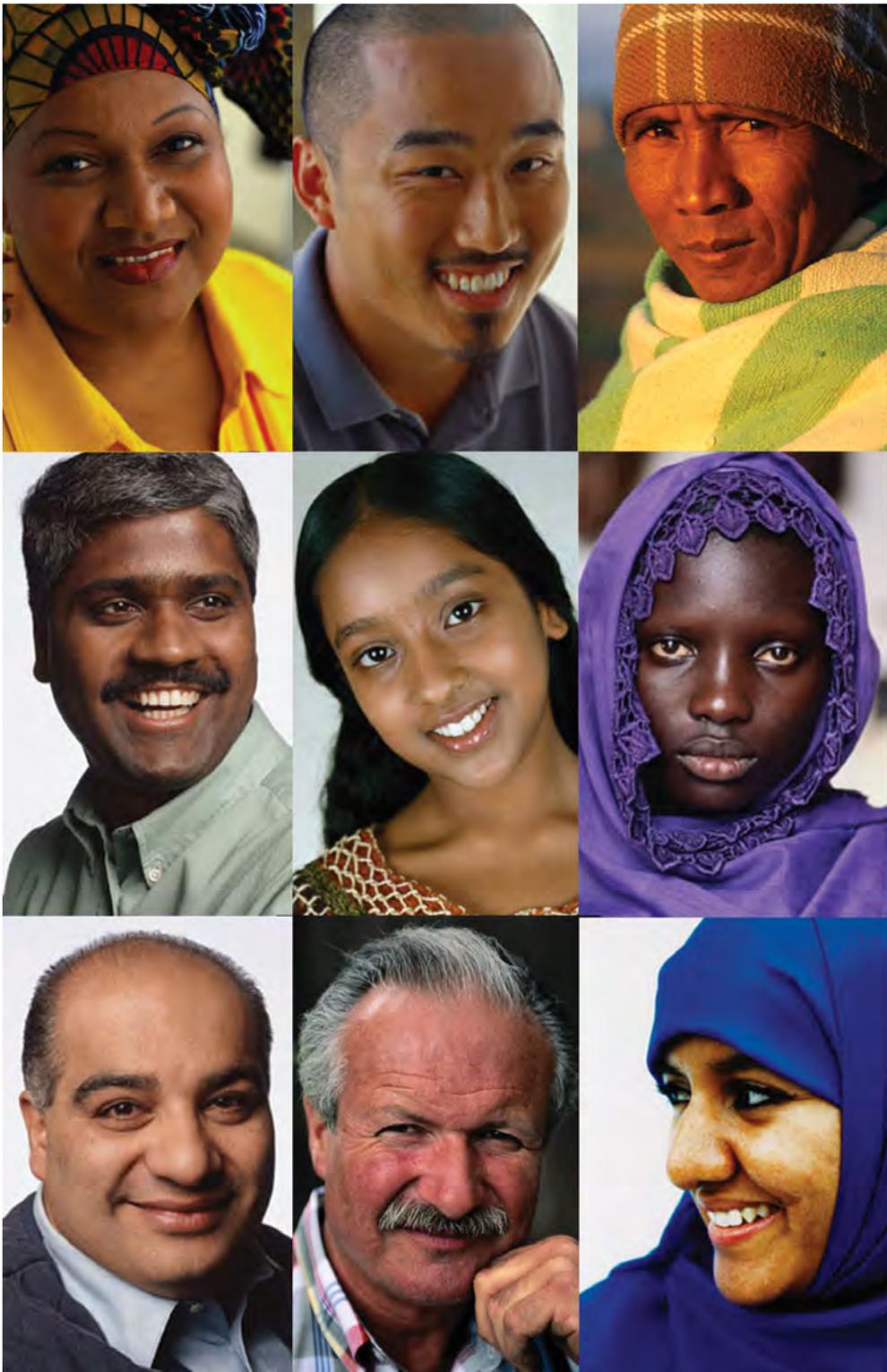


God's initiation

**A. God involved
Peter in
Cornelius's
conversion to
confirm to the
Jewish church
that God was
doing a new thing
(10:17-44)**

Caesarea: Loved and Despised

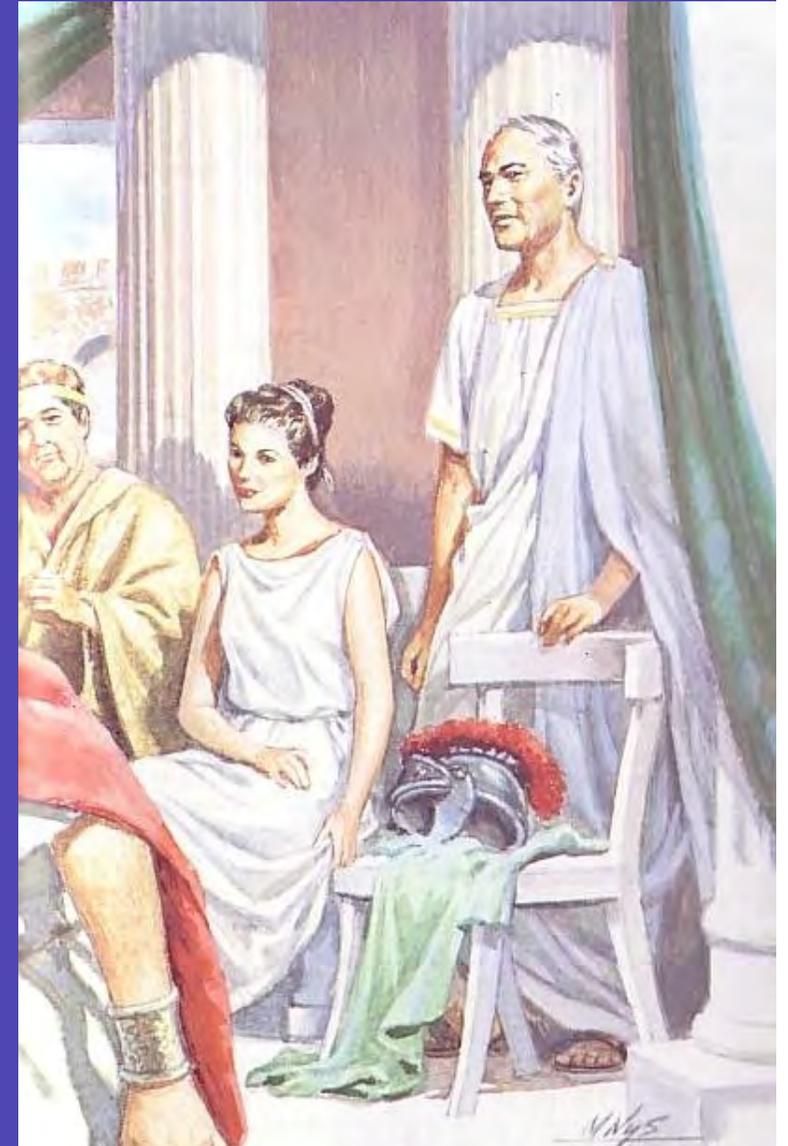




Peter's Response

“I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right, is welcome to Him”
(10:34–35).

God gave his Spirit to Cornelius



B. God is initiating many changes that we have little to do with.

Our Location in Singapore



International



Internet Age



**1. God always prepares
his people for change**



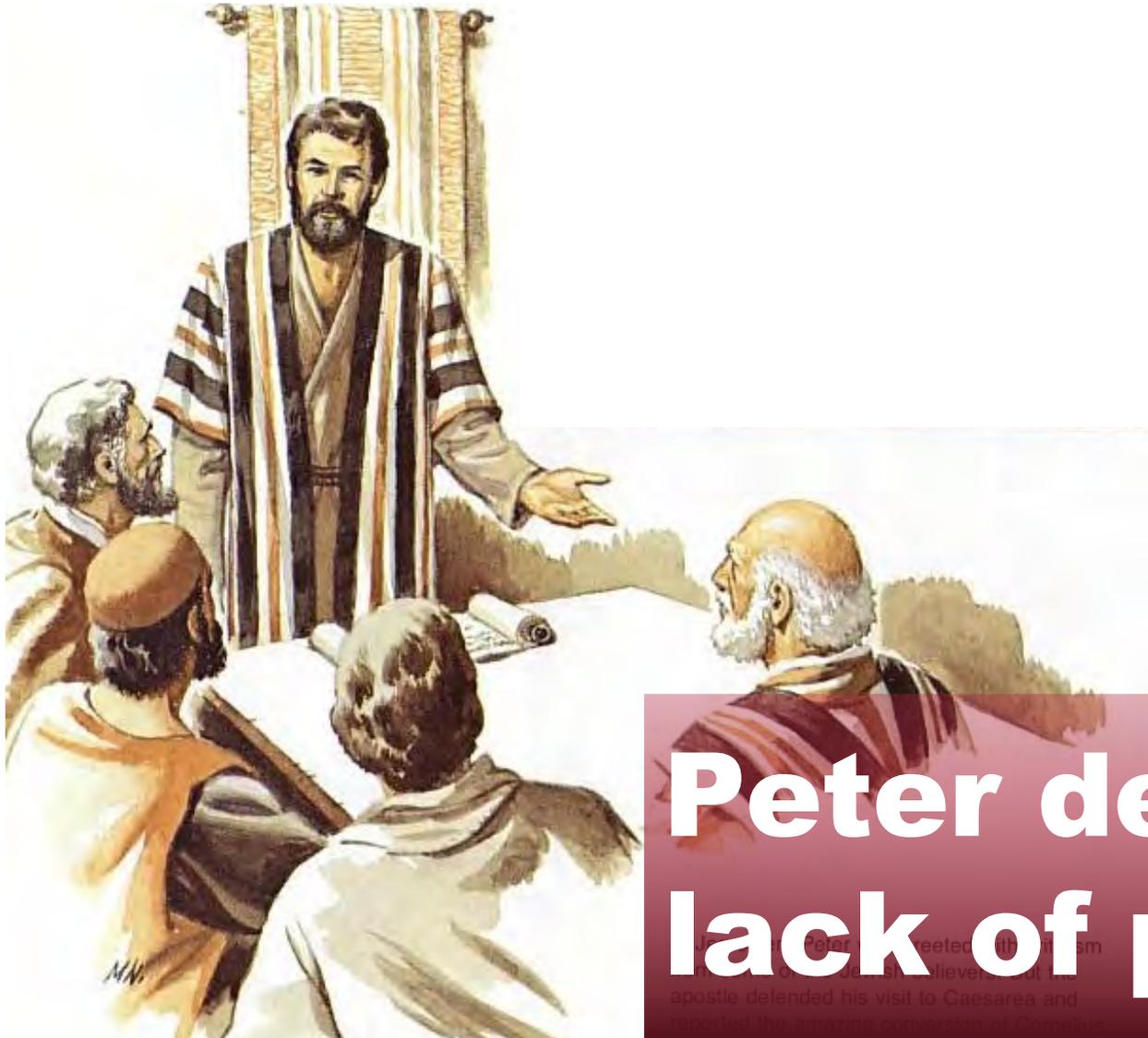
2. God **initiates** the change himself.



A close-up photograph of a turtle, likely a pond turtle, sitting on a mound of dirt. The turtle is looking upwards and to the right. Its shell is dark with some lighter patterns, and its head is extended. The background is blurred, showing some greenery and a dark ground surface.

**3. We must
embrace
God's new
plans**

a. The Jerusalem church had to accept Gentile conversion because this change was from God (10:45–11:18)



Peter defends his lack of prejudice

Reactions

- **Astonishment** by Jewish believers (10:45-46)
- **Acceptance** by Peter (10:47-48)
- **Accusation** by Pharisaical believers (11:1-3)
- **Approval** by the Jerusalem church (11:4-18)

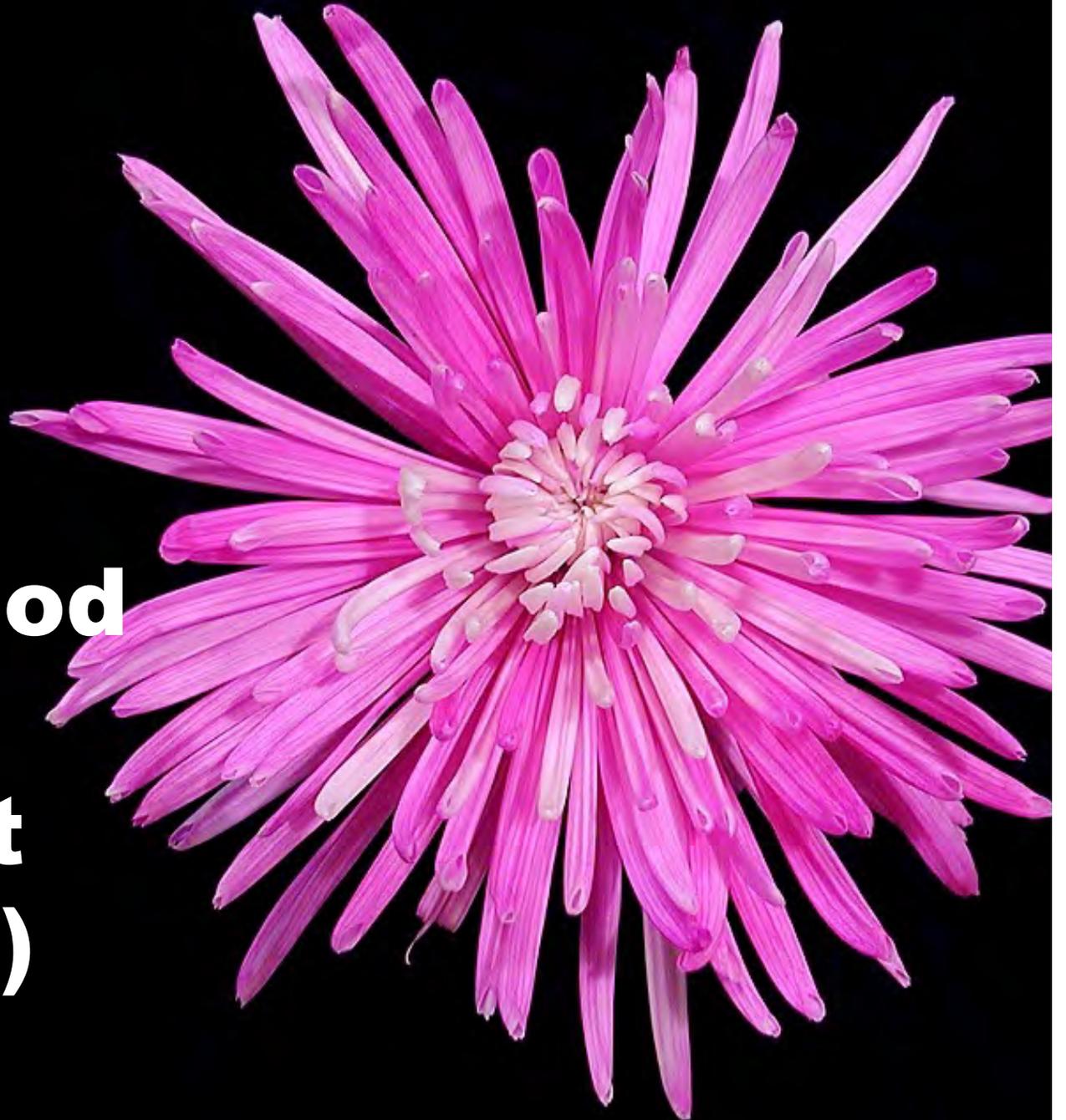
**We must
eagerly
embrace
changes
when God
himself is
initiating
them**



The main idea still hazy...?



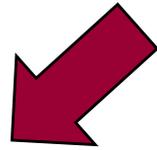
We must
eagerly
embrace
change
because God
himself is
initiating it
(Main Idea)



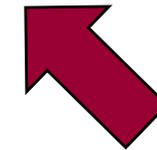
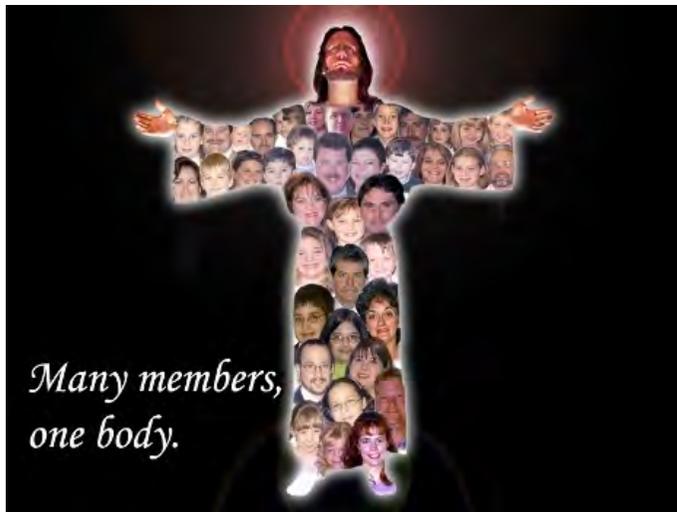


Our Vision is to...

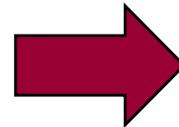
Love God

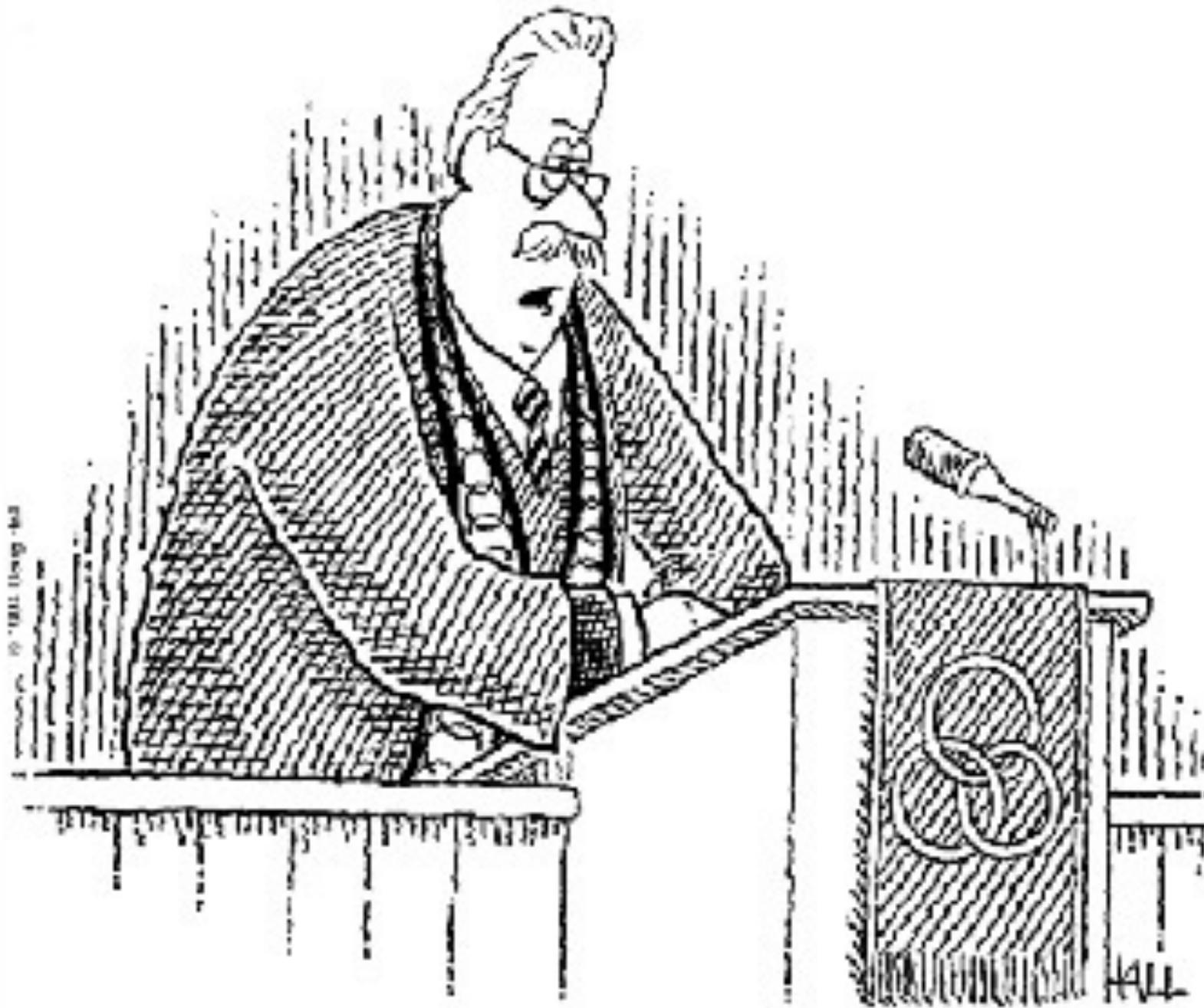


Love the Church



Love the Nations





“I’ve stopped expecting you to make leaps of faith, but it would be nice to see a hop now and then.”



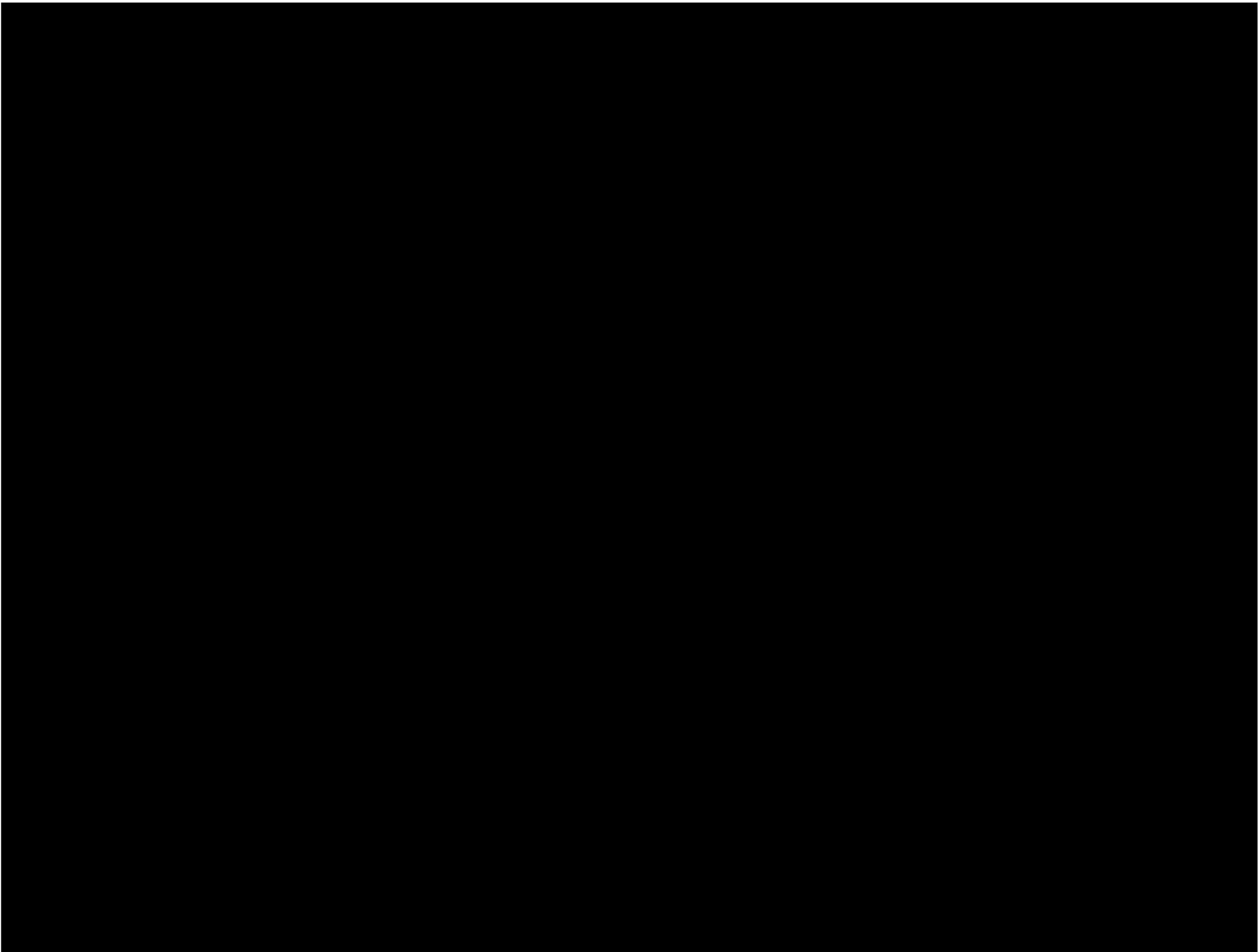
The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.



**Are you
willing to
embrace any
change that
will more
effectively
advance the
gospel?**

- 1. What changes are most necessary in your own church?**
- 2. What is your strategy to implement change in one key area?**

Your Strategy for Change



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