

No Outsiders

Isaiah 56

June 4, 2023

Sermon Sketch: In Romans 1, Paul states clearly that the Gospel is for the Jew first and then the Gentile. As we see here in Isaiah 55, God's plan has always been about grafting in, all who are willing, into His forever family...

- 1) How did a sense of urgency with regard to the return of the Lord impact you past week? (Isaiah 55 – Seek the Lord While He May Be Found – May 28, 2023)
- 2) Have you ever felt like an outsider when you were in a group setting? Have you ever experienced that feeling to then have someone subsequently make you feel welcomed and at home?
- 3) In what ways were eunuchs (Deuteronomy 23:1) and Gentiles (Ezekiel 44:9) treated in Israel? How does this relate to Jeremiah 4:4 and Romans 2:28-29? How might Isaiah's original hearers/readers of this prophecy been shocked and challenged by chapter 56?
- 4) How have you chosen to pursue Sabbath? How does the challenge of Hebrews 4:11 encourage you to pursue this blessing in a greater way in the days ahead?
- 5) If God's house is to be a place of prayer how can we make that a vibrant reality in our fellowship? The second of the Alliance Core Values states, "Prayer is the primary work of God's people.

(Philippians 4:6, 7)". How central should prayer be to all that we do (1 Thess. 5:17)?

- 6) As a house of prayer for all people we should probably be open to people who are very different from us. How open, as a Church, do you think we are here at Community Alliance? How might we be more welcoming to new folk?
- 7) As a Gentile follower of Jesus, how nourished are you through the Jewish roots (Rom. 11) of our faith?
- 8) With all the promises of God being "Yes" in Jesus (2 Cor. 1:20) what blessings of God will you especially pursue in the week ahead?
- 9) Having been welcomed into God's forever family, how are you now actively encouraging others to join His family also? Who are you regularly praying for?

