

MY NOTES

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these “challenges” are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

Week 32

ACTS

A Witness That
Astounds Us



This Week: Week 4

Watch & Discuss Video 4.

Financial Peace

University Starts Tomorrow Night. This 9 week class covers budgeting, savings, paying off debt and more! Signup today!

(Re)Commitment Sunday
Sunday, September 18!

TODAY'S
VERSES:

Acts 11:1-18

Romans 9-11

Luke 3:16

Luke 12:49-50

UPCOMING:

Women's Wednesday
Morning Bible Study
Starts this week at 9:30a.

eMoms! Lompoc Aquatic
Trip September 25th,
3:15p. Sign up today!

So far in Acts:
Guidance That Leads Us
A Heritage That Informs Us
Worship That Reminds Us
Preaching That Changes Us
Generosity That Defines Us
Compassion That Is Bigger Than Us
Truth That Challenges Us
Community That Encourages Us
Membership That Accounts For Us
Accountability That Exposes Us
A Hope That Heals Us
A Joy In Our Identity
A Lifestyle of Mission
Leadership That Grows Through Mistakes
A Peace That Speaks For Us
A Theology That Informs Us
A Calling That Kills Us
Words That Scatter Us
A Spirit That Humbles Us
A Baptism That Unifies Us
A Discipline That Restores Us
Passion That Speaks Through Us
Grace That Welcomes Us
A God That Goes Ahead of Us
A Salvation That Is Bigger Than Us
A Wisdom To Be Lived In

Week 32 – Acts 11:1-18 A Witness That Astounds Us

Our God is a God who testifies to us about Himself. He draws us, engages us, and moves us to a place where we have to do *something* with Him. Jesus performed some amazing miracles to get the people He called “stubborn” through the Old Testament scriptures to change, grow, and truly be the promised blessing they were meant to be. C.S. Lewis is quoted as saying that “if the Gospel is true, then your conversion doesn’t even begin until your notions of goodness, religiosity, and morality are completely challenged and undone.” He essentially says, “If the gospel is true, the ones who think they’re spiritually okay are not. They’re in the most trouble. The ones who say, ‘I’m not spiritually okay,’ are the ones who understand it.”

There was a division that happened when Peter went back to Jerusalem to talk about God saving Gentiles; this division could have ripped the church apart. Peter explains that he, himself, was amazed at what God was doing. Because of Peter’s testimony, the early church started to see the reality of what salvation meant and how it comes to pass. When Peter was done with witnessing about what God had done in these people, the early church was also amazed. *Acts 11:18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”*

Is there anyone you know that you would be amazed if they started to follow Jesus?

How is God challenging your limited vision about who He came to save?

Read Acts 11:16-18.

What is the difference between being born again and being good? Between grace and works?

Does grace have works?

How can we do the works of grace?

RE-MIX: WEEK FOUR

PLANTING ROOTS

INTRODUCTION – Please watch this week’s video at:

www.elementroots.org/remix/week4

At Element we believe there are 4 main things to remember about generosity:

1. *Generosity is how we learn the best stuff in life isn’t stuff.*
2. *Generosity creates humility before God.*
3. *Generosity strikes a blow at our core struggle and sin.*
4. *Generosity is part of God’s character.* From the beginning of the Bible to the end, we take for granted is that God Himself is the ultimate giver. We see God’s invitation for others to partake of His generosity at the end of Scripture.

DISCUSSION

How much stuff do you have that simply takes up space and never gets used?

EXPLANATION – Read Isaiah 62:12.

Do you think the lure of materialism and acquisition has gotten weaker or stronger in our day versus in Jesus’ day?

How does the lure of materialism show itself in your life?

APPLICATION – Read Luke 12:15.

How has God been generous toward us? Toward you, specifically?

God first gave to us, and our giving is meant to be a response. How does that challenge your views?

MISSION

If someone were to give you a nickname based on your financial behavior, what would it be?

How do you want to be known for your financial behavior?

What steps can you take to live more that way?

PRAY FOR

Our city and surrounding communities: for the grace to redeem culture, to share the gospel in all opportunities, gangs, drugs, crime, prostitution, human trafficking, homelessness, under employment, marriages in crises, families/parenting in crisis, racial and economic division.