

April 9, 2023 – Easter Sunday

Listen

[Acts 10:34-43](#)

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them; “I truly understand that God shows no partiality; but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.”

I don't remember exactly when I began to attend Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and worship but I know it was a young age. My mom was not raised in the church, but for some reason she believed it was important that I attend. So, we attended two different churches.

We walked to the Methodist Church that was around the corner from our house when my dad was on National Guard duty and until I was six, we would drive to the Disciples of Christ Church on the other side of town where my dad held membership. We moved to the neighboring town when I was six.

Shortly after we were settled in our new home, we began to attend the Methodist Church my mom had attended as a young girl with her neighbor. Again, the church was within walking distance of our new home.

I am not sure why my mom always felt it was necessary I was in church. It may have been because it was so different than my home life. I felt welcomed and loved. That was not always so much at home.

I don't think Peter is talking so much about church attendance as he is talking about the behavior and the attitude with which we seek Him. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, realized how important it was to be near people who understand God's love and expectations.

While it is hard to maintain fitness programs without the support and encouragement of others who are doing likewise, we need to similarly be around mature, grounded Christians to understand what God considers to be acceptable for each of us.

Today, as we join together with God's church, we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. I'm sure you are as thankful for your church home as I am. It's now time for us all to begin to diligently listen and hear what God expects from us.

Prayer: *Show us how we can be the kind, compassionate voice to the small child who needs to know about you. And Lord help us listen to people around us who can be more acceptable in your way. AMEN*

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