

The Welcome Initiative, Week 4
“**Radical Welcome**”

1. Go back and read Hebrews 1:15-16, and just let it sit with you for a minute. What exactly is it that God (our “High Priest”) did that allows us to “approach the throne of grace with boldness? In other words, what makes us feel welcome in His presence?
2. As His people, we are supposed to “show the world what God is like.” So how, then, do we—through our actions and lifestyle—emulate what we see God doing in this passage?
3. What would you say are the things about our church that are most compelling, and most attractive to those outside the church?
4. What would you say are the things about are church that are the most *repelling* and the least attractive to those outside the church (just to get right into things, here)?
5. Read Acts 2:42-47. What is it about this early church that was apparently so welcoming to those who “were being added to their numbers day-by-day?”

Make a list below of all of the factors you can find in this passage that would be compelling to you.

Now. Go back through that list and ask: what would it look like for a group of people do do each of these things in our cultural context? How can our church move beyond what we are already doing to look like this?

6. Spend some time together as a group, working specifically on one thing that your group might be able to do that would increase your welcome to the world around you. Layered in this is another question: is it time for your group to welcome new members? What would that look like?