

## A House for All Peoples

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Isaiah 56:1-8

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Synopsis:

As you will see with our new members today, the church is not a club, which demands high moral requirements. The church wants sinners who need just and right relationships. Therefore, the only entrance requirement is trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

### I.

Clubs require entrance criteria

“Do not let the foreigner . . . the eunuch” Isa 56:3

Traffic School: criteria

-name, crime, job (had to show my photo)

-all types there

-8 hours of complaints, jokes, and movies

Mr. Walker/Wheeler, Road Rage, A Night to Remember,  
Penske seatbelts, Trains

\*Only criterion was sinner in need of help.

Society: criteria

Smart, Good looking, money

Either you have one of these or you're out.

### II.

Outcasts in Ancient Society

“To the eunuchs . . . and the foreigners” Isa 56:4, 6

Israelite society had insiders and outsiders, just as we have in American society.

Eunuchs = castrated public officials

Strangers = those outside the clan structure of Israel.

If you were in one of these categories, you were out; you didn't fit the criteri

### III.

God's criterion is sinners who need help  
"Maintain justice and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come" Isa 56:1

Criteria: justice and righteousness, salvation

*Mishpat, Sedekah* = standards

*Yeshua* = help! (Jesus = *Yeshua*)

Basically relationally bankrupt who need help

Traffic School:

Sinners who need help

E.g. STOP NO TICKET FOR ME!

What a wonderful metaphor for the church: Sinners who need help.

### IV.

God is missional in his inclusion process  
"For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples" Isaiah 56:7

Inclusion = all sinners, even eunuchs and strangers

Missional = sent into the world to do God's work

Missional means going after the people who are not here. Who is not here that we might reach for the gospel?

1. People like you who don't know Jesus
2. People near here who don't know Jesus
3. People whom you wouldn't think would want to know Jesus

### V.

God means to include all sinners  
"I will gather others to them besides those already gathered." Isa 56:8

Traffic School:

-Mr. Pastor, every joke "Sorry Pastor"

-Had one young man and two women come up to me

\*Here's our opportunity:

- Wherever you are

- Witness to your need

- Call yourself and others to righteousness in Jesus Christ