



Small Group Study Questions

Week 19

Acts 10:1-4 (NASB 1995)

Now there was a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort, 2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people and prayed to God continually. 3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, “Cornelius!” 4 And fixing his gaze on him and being much alarmed, he said, “What is it, Lord?” And he said to him, “Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God.

Acts 10:9-15 (NASB 1995)

9 On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. 10 But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance; 11 and he *saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground, 12 and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air. 13 A voice came to him, “Get up, Peter, kill and eat!” 14 But Peter said, “By no means, Lord, for I have never eaten anything unholy and unclean.” 15 Again a voice came to him a second time, “What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.”

Acts 10:19-22 (NASB 1995)

19 While Peter was reflecting on the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you. 20 But get up, go downstairs and accompany them without misgivings, for I have sent them Myself.” 21 Peter went down to the men and said, “Behold, I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for which you have come?” 22 They said, “Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, was divinely directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and hear a message from you.”

Acts 10:24-29 (NASB 1995)

24 On the following day he entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him, and fell at his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter raised him up, saying, “Stand up; I too am just a man.” 27 As he talked with him, he entered and *found many people assembled. 28 And he said to them, “You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean. 29 That is why I came without even raising any objection when I was sent for. So I ask for what reason you have sent for me.”

Acts 10:33-35 (NASB 1995)

33 So I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”

34 Opening his mouth, Peter said: “I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him.

DIGGING DEEPER

Have you ever been amazed when someone accepted Jesus by faith? Tell us about it. Why was it so amazing? What surprised you the most?

Read Acts 10:1-8

If this is all you knew about Cornelius, is he saved?

What could he be relying on to make him right with God?

Read Acts 10:9-16

Why doesn't Peter do what is commanded of him?

Are the dietary laws still to be followed by Peter? (Read Mark 7:14-23 to see Jesus' teaching on the subject)

Read Acts 10:17-23

Peter was Jewish - these men were Romans. Is there a social problem with Peter sharing lodging, food, and then traveling with them?

DIGGING DEEPER

Is there a situation where if you interacted with a certain someone it would be socially looked down upon?

Read Acts 10:24-33

How does Peter apply the vision to this interaction with Cornelius and his household?

Read Acts 10:34-35

Based on what you know happens next, is Peter using his prejudice to stop him from preaching, or does he learn the lesson God had for him?

Do you have any prejudice against a certain person, people, or part of society? How can you overcome it and help advance the gospel toward them this week?

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYER REQUEST

