

Small Group Study Questions

Week 18

Acts 10:34-48 (NASB 1995)

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. 36 The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)—37 you yourselves know the thing which took place throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed. 38 You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. 39 We are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross. 40 God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible, 41 not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is, to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. 42 And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. 43 Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins."

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, 47 "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?" 48 And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

Acts 11:15-17 (NASB 1995)

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

DIGGING DEEPER

Have you ever been amazed at how God works? Tell us about it.
Read Acts 10:34-43 What stands out to you from Peter's sermon?
According to Peter, how does one receive salvation?
Read Acts 10:44-48 What ethnicity are the "circumcised believers"?
What amazed those believers?
Why were the Gentiles baptized?

DIGGING DEEPER

Share your baptism story - When were you baptized? Why were you baptized? (If you've never been baptized after believing in Jesus, what's stopping you? If you would like to be baptized, please reach out to the church office.)

Read Acts 11:15-18

Peter and the rest of the early church leaders were wary of this new work of God. What convinced them?

How did they respond?

How should you and I respond when we hear of new works of the Lord?

TAKING IT HOME

Which point from this weekend's message or small group study is most important for you to remember?

PRAYER REQUEST



