

**EXPLORER'S BIBLE STUDY**  
**The Acts of the Apostles**  
**Session 12: Peter and Cornelius! – Student Notes**  
**ACTS 9: 31-10:48**  
Heritage Church, Van Buren, Arkansas  
December 2nd, 2009

Memory verses:

Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking lies

**Psalm 34:13**

Look to Me and be saved, all you ends of the earth

**Isaiah 45:22**

**Attribute of God:            December 02:            God is a TEACHER**

**Aim:** To teach that God has no favorites. God loves everyone the same.

**Ice Breaker Discussion:** Did you grow up isolated from or associating with other ethnic groups? How much contact do you have with people from other ethnic groups or countries today?

**INTRODUCTION:**

**I. The Church After Paul's Conversion .... Acts 9:31-43**

**1. It Prospers: vs. 31**

**2. Two Miracles: Parallels to Jesus' Healing Ministry: vs. 32-43**

**A. You are a Saint!**

**B. Where did Peter learn to do this miracle?**

**C. Comparison of miracles: Mark 2: 11-12, Mark 5: 40-43**

**1) Both miracles were performed by Jesus. Peter simply followed his example!**

**2) Both miracles were performed as signs of the salvation of Jesus:**  
Same Greek word in verses 34 and 40 for "get up/arise". (Acts 2:24, 3:22)

**3) Both miracles resulted in Jesus receiving GLORY!** (Read Acts 9:35, 42)

**Transition:** (Matt. 16:19) "I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven!"

**II. ACTS 10: The Gentile Pentecost!**

**1. Introduction to Cornelius (Acts 10:1-3), See Psalm 9:10**

## **2. Gentiles and Jews**

### **A. Blessed to be a Blessing to ALL Nations (Genesis 12)**

--Psalm 2: 7-8, Psalm 22:27, Isaiah 49, Joel 2

### **B. Prejudice Must Be Overcome!**

### **C. Three Main Sins of Prejudice**

1) **Self-Centered Pride:** --Haman

2) **Blindness to the truth:** Mark 6:4.

3) **Lack of real love:** Example. Luke 10: 36-37: The Good Samaritan.

## **3. An Angel Visits Cornelius: Acts 10: 3-8 (meets with him while praying)**

## **4. Peter's Vision: Acts 10: 9-16**

## **5. Peter Summoned to Caesarea: Acts 10: 17-23**

## **6. Peter Meets Cornelius: Acts 10: 24-33**

### **A. Cornelius Invites a Crowd! Vs. 24**

### **B. Cornelius and Paul Affirm One Another! Vs. 25-26**

1) It is improper to worship a person as divine.

2) It is inappropriate to reject a person as if they were unclean!

“Peter refused both to be treated by Cornelius as if he were a god and to treat Cornelius as if he were a dog.” -- John Stott

### **C. They Explain Their Reasons for Meeting: vs. 27-33**

## **7. Peter Preaches to Cornelius' Household: Acts 10: 34-43**

### **A. You are Anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power to DO GOOD!**

**B. You are commanded to PROCLAIM and TESTIFY that Jesus is the JUDGE!**

**C. By the Authority of HIS Name, ANYONE who believes in Him will be forgiven!**

**Discuss: In groups of two or three**

**A. What is the GOOD that you have been anointed to do?**

**B. To WHOM in your life does God want you to proclaim and testify about Jesus? List, at least, three people or groups.**

**8. The Holy Spirit Falls on the Gentiles: Acts 10: 44-48**

### **III. LESSONS TO LEARN**

**1. GOD Does not Show Favoritism!**

**2. Jesus' death on the cross is for ALL PEOPLE!**

**3. The Gift of the Holy Spirit is Universal!**

**Ministry Time at Tables. Discuss in your group:**

**A. Are you absolutely certain that you have received the remission of your sins? Why or why not? Explain ...**

**B. Do You Believe You have received the Gift of the Holy Spirit in power? Why or why not? Explain ...**

**For those who desire ... confess your faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior, confess and receive the remission of sins (1 John 1:9), and/or pray for one another to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit.**