

Acts 10:1–23 highlights God’s work in Cornelius and Peter, the breaking of barriers between Jew and Gentile, and the call to respond to God’s leading.

- What details does Luke give about Cornelius’ character and spiritual life in verses 1–8, and why might those details matter?
- What do you notice about the timing and setting of Cornelius’ vision and Peter’s vision (times of day, what they were doing)?
- How does Peter initially respond to the vision of the sheet and the command, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat”? What does this show about his convictions as a Jew?
- How many times is the vision repeated to Peter, and what might that repetition suggest about Peter’s reluctance or the importance of the message?
- What specific instructions does the Spirit give Peter when Cornelius’ men arrive, and how does Peter obey?
- What was the barrier between Jews and Gentiles in this passage (ethnic, religious, social), and how do you see that barrier beginning to crumble here?
- In what ways is Peter’s vision about more than food laws, and how does it prepare him to go to Cornelius’ house?
- How do Cornelius’ vision and Peter’s vision “fit together,” and what does this coordination show about God’s sovereignty and strategy in mission?
- Why would staying with “Simon the tanner” already be stretching Peter’s boundaries before Acts 10:9–23, and how does that background help you read this story?
- What does this passage teach about who is “acceptable” to God and how God views people from different nations and backgrounds?
- Peter had lifelong convictions shaped by Scripture and tradition, yet God challenged how he applied them. Where might long-held views in your life need to be reconsidered in light of God’s heart revealed in Jesus?
- What kinds of people or groups today feel “unclean,” uncomfortable, or distant to you, similar to how Gentiles felt to many Jews? How might God be inviting you to move toward them?
- Can you recall a time when God seemed to be working “on both sides”—in your heart and in someone else’s circumstances—to bring about a gospel conversation or step of obedience? How does Acts 10 encourage you to look for such “divine appointments”?
- Cornelius responds promptly and obediently to the angel’s message. What does his example teach about responding to the light and truth God has already given you?
- The Spirit tells Peter to go “without hesitation.” Where might hesitation, fear, or prejudice be holding you back from obedience right now, and what would it look like to take the next step of faith?
- Thinking about MEFC, and community, what “invisible walls” might keep certain people on the outside, and what specific steps could your group take to reflect God’s welcome more clearly?
- How can we cultivate sensitivity to the Spirit’s leading in everyday life, so that you recognize and respond to opportunities like the ones in Acts 10:1–23?