

Sunday May 2, 2021
"A Seismic Shift"
Acts 10

Getting to Know You

1. When has a seemingly small errand or job turned out to be more significant than you thought?

Digging Deeper

Read Acts 10:1-33.

1. Cornelius was a centurion posted to Caesarea, a key port in a key strategic zone. How does this first Roman we meet in the book of Acts depart from the stereotype of a Roman officer (10:1-8)?
2. What is the message of Cornelius's vision?
3. If you were Peter, what kind of emotions would you be experiencing during the vision recorded in Acts 10:9-16?
4. God could have communicated the gospel to Cornelius directly. Why do you think he had Peter and several other believers (6) travel from Joppa to Caesarea, some 50 km away, to meet with Cornelius and a houseful of other people face to face?
5. What did Peter learn from his vision that prepared him to meet Cornelius?
6. Some believe this story suggests that "all religions lead to God" or even that all religions are basically the same. What evidence is there in this episode that neither Cornelius nor Peter would agree with such a viewpoint?
7. In what ways might you or your church need to experience humility for the sake of the gospel, forgoing privileges or giving greater honor to others?

Read Acts 10:34-48.

1. Now that Peter has an opportunity to tell Cornelius and the others whatever he wants, what does he highlight?
2. The Holy Spirit had fallen on believers in Jerusalem (Acts 2) and in Samaria (Acts 8). Now it has fallen on Gentiles in Caesarea. What is Luke emphasizing with this sequence of episodes?

Prayer

Ask God to open your eyes and your heart where you have been closed to outsiders. Pray that you will see people as God sees them, as beloved by God and in need of the gospel.