

2. The CENTER of the Gospel . . .

It is about JESUS (10:35-42)

His LORDSHIP (10:36)

His LIFE (10:37-39)

His DEATH (10:39)

His RESURRECTION (10:40-41)

His JUDGEMENT (10:42)

His FORGIVENESS (10:43)

3. The INVITATION of the Gospel . . .

It calls us to TRUST Jesus (10:43)

4. The IMPACT of the Gospel . . .

It changes LIVES & RELATIONSHIPS (10:44-48)

- This is a GENTILE PENTECOST. Why?
- Cornelius and his family/friends are BORN AGAIN by the Holy Spirit to a new SPIRITUAL LIFE.
- Cornelius and Peter are now BROTHERS in a new SPIRITUAL FAMILY.



Peter's Paradigm Shift

Acts 10:23-48

Sunday, May 7, 2017

The monumental significance of the encounter between Peter and Cornelius in Acts 10 cannot be overstated. So let's explore it today together.

The encounter between Peter & Cornelius is sovereignly orchestrated by God to accomplish 3 things . . .

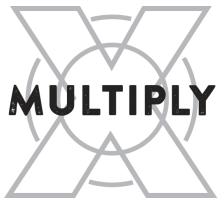
- To INITIATE and VALIDATE the spread of the Gospel to the Gentiles.
- To SAVE Cornelius and to GROW Peter as 4 essential qualities of the Gospel are illuminated through their encounter.
- To SAVE others and GROW others as these 4 essential qualities of the Gospel are illuminated in this text of Acts.

What are these 4 essential qualities of the Gospel highlighted in the encounter between Peter & Cornelius?

1. The REACH of the Gospel . . .

It is for ALL (10:23-34)

Peter refuses to be treated by Cornelius as a GOD and he refuses to treat Cornelius as a DOG.



Peter's Paradigm Shift

Acts 10:23-48

Sunday, May 7, 2017

Connecting & Caring Together (about 20 min.)

In this 5th week of Spring Growth Groups, share one way you've been experiencing God this last week.

Grappling with God's Word Together (about 20 - 30 min.)

1. Why is Acts 10:33 a fantastic example of how we ought to gather to hear the teaching of God's Word . . . and to discuss it in Growth Groups? What do you see in that statement? How does it compare with your thoughts and attitude as you gather to hear or discuss God's Word?
2. Take a minute to pray and ask God to help you hear God's Word as Cornelius hears it. Then divide and read Acts 10:23-48 together again as a group. What jumps out at you this time through the text?
3. Why is this encounter between Peter and Cornelius so monumentally significant in terms of the movement of Acts and the mission of Jesus? How is each man transformed in the encounter?

4. Where in the text do you think Cornelius tries to worship Peter? And why? How does Peter respond?
5. Peter won't let Cornelius treat him like a God, but neither will Peter treat Cornelius like a dog. Where do we see this in the text and what does it represent for Peter?
6. Sharing our faith is always challenging and audiences are often not as open and ready as Cornelius, but still Peter provides a helpful template for sharing the Gospel in Acts 10:34-43. Mine those verses and create an outline of Peter's points. (Don't peek at the outline for this one!)
7. Why is this "Gentile Pentecost" necessary? And for whom?
8. Peter knows the Gospel, but is still growing in the Gospel, which is a process that continues our whole lives. How are you growing in the Gospel these days and in what areas of life?

Praying Together (about 20 min.)

Share needs. Share the names of "not yet Christians" whom the Lord has brought into your life and laid on your heart. Pray for one another's needs and for these people. Pray the Lord will grow your group in the Gospel!