

³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. —Acts 2:38–41

⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. —Acts 10:42–44

THIS IS HOW WE GOSPEL

³⁹ Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ⁴⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ⁴¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead. —Acts 17:29–31

⁴⁴ The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. ⁴⁵ But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. ⁴⁶ And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. —Acts 13:44–46

***THIS IS
HOW WE
GOSPEL***

WEEK 2

PETER AT CORNELIUS' HOUSE

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

To keep your group healthy and growing, center your time together around the Word, prayer, relationships, and outreach. This guide will help you engage Acts 10:34-48 through observation, interpretation, and application, in line with this week's big idea: **God sends us to preach the gospel to everyone, because only the gospel is good news for all people**

CONNECT

- Share about a time when you were surprised by someone's openness to spiritual things. What happened?

INTRODUCTION

Acts 10 tells the powerful story of Peter preaching to Cornelius—a Roman centurion—and his Gentile household. Peter, a Jew, had to overcome cultural and religious boundaries to proclaim the gospel to people very different from himself. But God was already at work, preparing hearts. This moment becomes a turning point in the early church as the Holy Spirit falls on Gentiles just as He had on Jews. This shows us something vital: the gospel is not just for people like us—it's for *everyone*.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

- **Read: Acts 10:34-38**

- What do we learn about God's character in vv. 34-35? What does it mean that He "shows no partiality"?
- Who was Cornelius, and why does his background matter? (Consider vv. 1-4 for context.)

- **Read: Acts 10:39-43**

- What are the essential elements of the gospel message Peter shares?
- Peter mentions Jesus as *judge*—why is this sometimes overlooked in how we present the gospel?

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

- **Read: Acts 10:44-48**

- What is surprising about what happens while Peter is still speaking?
- How does the Spirit's outpouring on Gentiles reflect the inclusive power of the gospel? What effect does this moment have on Peter's understanding of God's mission?

APPLICATION

- How does this passage challenge the assumptions we make about who might be open to the gospel?
- Peter was changed as much as Cornelius through this encounter. How has sharing your faith grown or challenged you personally?
- What does it look like to proclaim the *whole* gospel—not just the comforting parts, but also the truth about repentance, judgment, and grace?

PRAYER

- Thank God for His impartial love and for sending the gospel to *all nations*.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to give you boldness, compassion, and opportunities to proclaim the gospel clearly.
- Pray for specific people in your life who need to know Jesus—by name.

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