

# ACTS

LIVING ON MISSION

Acts 10–11:18

October 22, 2023

## BELONG

Get to Know One Another

Take a **few minutes** to hear about your group members' week.

- What was the “wrong crowd” to hang out with in high school?

## BELIEVE

Read this Week's Scripture

This week, Pastor Jacob's sermon – a “Life for the Nations” – focused on **Acts 10–11:18**. This text deals with Peter being called to share the gospel of Jesus Christ to the house of Cornelius. But, in order to convert the Gentile Cornelius – and to show the Jewish Christians that the gospel was for everyone **without distinction** – God had to first “convert” Peter and change his thinking. Peter had to be convinced that the gospel is for everyone, including those completely outside the Jewish nation. **We won't read all of our Scripture this week so I want to encourage you all to read it at home this week.**

Have someone in your group read **Acts 10:9–16**

**Question 1:** Just like Peter, how often in our lives do we question ourselves when God asks us to do something? How do we know when it's God speaking?

Have someone in your group read **Acts 10:34–35 & 42–43**

**Question 2:** In **verses 34 –35**, Peter states, **“Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him...”**

- What does it mean “God shows no partiality”?
- What is the context?

Have someone in your group read **Acts 10:44–48**

**Question 3:** Why do you think the presence of the Holy Spirit was important on this occasion?

## BUILD

Engage the Scripture

Have someone in your group read verses **11:1-18**

**Question 4:** Why is the story of Peter and Cornelius's conversion so important?

- How can this story be applied to our context at FBC Portland?

**Question 5:** How did God "convert" Peter to the God's direction | make-up of His church?

- How does this "conversion" serve as a reminder to the church today?

**Question 6:** In **Acts 11:3**, who were "those of the circumcision"?

- Why did the circumcised believers imply that it was wrong for Peter to eat with Gentiles?

**Question 7:** Why would they skip over the gentiles, and why weren't they happy to hear that the gentiles also had received the word of God?

**Question 8:** In **Acts 11:15-17**, how did Peter dismiss the idea that the Gentiles were second-class citizens?

## BECOME

Apply the Scripture

**Question 9:** How do you explain the change in attitude in the Jewish believers in **Acts 11:2 to 11:18**?

- Does it relate to **Acts 1:8**? How?
- What "gift" was given that convinced them to change their attitude?

**Question 10:** When faced with heavy criticism, Peter responds by letting the work of the Holy Spirit defend him.

- How do you usually respond to criticism?
- How does the knowledge of the sovereignty of God affect the ways in which you defend yourself?

**Question 11:** In the church, do we have a tendency to step in God's way? [*put up barriers to the gospel, withhold the gospel, or seek ethnocentricity -belief that one culture is superior to another.*]

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Blue Letter Bible:** [Acts 10 & Acts 11](#): Check out the QR code to learn more.

**Precept Austin:** [Acts 10 & Acts 11](#): Check out the QR code to learn more.

