

For Starters: Have I ever felt called by God to go outside my comfort zone?

Witness in Judea and Samaria (8:4—12:25)

Peter's Ministry (9:32—11:18)

Peter Cures a Paralytic in Lydda (9:32-35)

9:32 Who are the "saints" in Lydda?

9:34 How is Peter's healing of a paralytic similar to and different from Jesus' in **Luke 5:17-26**?

Peter Restores a Girl to Life in Joppa (9:36-43)

9:36 How is Tabitha a model for other disciples?

9:39 How is Peter's raising of Tabitha from the dead like Jesus' in **Mark 5:35-43**?

9:42 What is the response of the residents of Joppa and Lydda (see **9:35**) to Peter's miracles?

9:43 Why is the profession of this Simon from Joppa a significant detail?

Cornelius Receives a Vision (10:1-8)

10:1-2 Compare this centurion to the one Jesus met in **Luke 7:2-5**. How are they alike?

10:3-4 When does the angel appear to Cornelius?

Why is this time significant, given the content of the angel's message?

Peter Receives a Vision (10:9-16)

10:10-13 How does God use Peter's condition to send him a message?

10:13-14 Why can't Peter kill and eat *all* animals for food? (see **Leviticus 11:46-47**)

10:15 What is the meaning of what the voice says?

Peter Meets Cornelius (10:17-33)

10:20 What is the state of relations between Jews and Gentiles?

Why is the Spirit's command to Peter surprising?

10:22 Compare this description of Cornelius again to **Luke 7:4-5**.

Why does Cornelius want Peter to visit him?

10:23 Who accompanies Peter on the trip from Joppa to Caesarea?

10:25-26 What does Peter do that Jesus didn't do?

10:28 Consider what Peter says about Jews mingling with Gentiles. Now consider the words of the centurion to Jesus in **Luke 7:6-8**. Why might that centurion have not requested that Jesus come to his house?

How has Peter now understood and interpreted the vision he received?

10:33 What does Cornelius believe about Peter?

Peter Preaches to Cornelius (10:34-43)

10:34 What does it mean to be partial or to show partiality?

10:35 What are the criteria Peter identifies for being acceptable to God?

10:36 How does Peter describe Jesus to Cornelius and his household?

10:38 What does Peter emphasize about Jesus in this verse?

What does that imply about the "good" and "healing" that Peter and other Christians do?

10:42 What is the climax of Peter's sermon to Gentiles?

How does it differ from his sermons to Jews?

Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit (10:44-48)

10:44-46 In what ways is this event like Pentecost?

How can Peter be sure that the incorporation of Gentiles into the Church is God's will?

10:48 Are the Gentiles excused from receiving baptism because they have received the Holy Spirit in an extraordinary way? Why or why not?

Application: How do I recognize the signs and messages God sends me?

Application: How is Christ calling me to overcome my prejudices?