

BUILD YOUR KINGDOM

The Book of Acts

PART 10: SALVATION FOR THE GENTILES!

DISCUSSION STARTER

Have you ever been discriminated against because of the colour of your skin, the language you speak, your culture or nationality?

Have you ever discriminated against anyone else because of any of these things?

BIBLE STUDY

1. **READ ACTS 10:34-43.** What does it mean to say that God show no partiality/favoritism (vs 34)?
2. If Jesus is 'Lord of all' (vs 36), what does this imply for relationships between the nations?
3. Peter assumes Cornelius and his household knew about the ministry of Jesus (vs 37-38). How would they have known about these things, and what might they have heard?
4. Why did Peter explain his status as a witness of Jesus, and his God-given mission (vs 39-42)?
5. According to vs 43, who can receive forgiveness of sins? How?
6. **READ ACTS 10:44-48.** How do these events compare with what happened in Acts 2:1-4 & 40-41?
7. **READ ACTS 11:1-18.** Who were the 'circumcision party', and what was their gripe with Peter?
8. How did Peter defend his actions? What strategy did he use in his 'argument' (vs 4)?
9. We understand that Peter's vision was not really about the food. What did the unclean animals (vs 6) symbolize, and what was the crucial lesson God was teaching Peter and the Church?
10. Whose testimony is added to Peter's in vs 11-14? Why does this help his argument?
11. What was unique about the way the Holy Spirit fell upon the gentiles in this passage, compared to, for example, Acts 8:17? What was the 'message in the miracle'?
12. What ground-breaking new revelation is acknowledged in vs 18, and how did they all respond?

PRAYER

That we as a Church in South Africa will recognize that our prejudices and racist divisions are not of God, and that we will repent of these things and pursue unity under Christ!