

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Peter & Cornelius

WHAT YOU NEED

- Clean & Unclean memory cards (2 sets, printed)
- Scissors

1

LET'S READ THE BIBLE

Take turns or have someone in your family read the following passages:

- Acts 10:1-28
- Acts 10:44-48

2

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Cornelius was a Roman centurion in command of at least 100 soldiers. He was a good and "God fearing" man. Although Cornelius was a good man, he was not a Jew (he was a Gentile). One day, Cornelius was praying and he saw an angel of God. The angel told Cornelius to send for Peter in Joppa. So Cornelius sent 3 people to go and find him.

Peter was staying in Joppa at the house of Simon the tanner. Peter was on the roof when he fell into a trance and saw a vision. He saw a sheet filled with unclean animals (according to the Jewish laws). Then a voice told him to kill and eat them. When Peter refused, the voice told him not to call anything impure that the Lord has made pure.

Peter hosted Cornelius' messengers and later entered into Cornelius, a gentile's, home which shows that Peter was willing to do what he had learned in the vision.

Cornelius had gathered his family and friends to come and hear what Peter would say. After Peter shared the Good News about Jesus with everyone at Cornelius' house, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message and they were baptised.

It was clear to Peter that God was accepting Gentiles into his family. God's church kept growing, this time with all kinds of people, not just the Jews. God wants everyone to be part of His family, the Church.

3

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- What is a Gentile? (*Any person who is not a Jew*)
- What vision did Peter have?
- What did Peter do after he had the vision?
- What happened after Peter shared the Good News with the people at Cornelius' house?
- Which people on this earth does God want to become Christians?

4

NOW WHAT?

- Who should we be sharing the Good News about Jesus with?
- Who will you share the Good News about Jesus with and how will you do it?

5

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN

- Print out 2 sets of the "Clean & Unclean" memory cards and cut them out
- Place all the cards face down on a table or flat surface
- Family members take turns to turn over 2 cards and try to match them - if they get a match they keep the cards, if not turn the cards back over and it's someone else's turn
- The family member with the most cards at the end, wins.

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