

Let Them Hear

Lesson Seven • Acts 10:1-33

Let All Peoples Hear

The Big Idea of Acts 10

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is for ALL PEOPLES regardless of ethnic identity, so let all peoples hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:2-3

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because You were slaughtered, and You redeemed people for God by Your blood from every tribe and language and people and nation.” Revelation 5:9

Let All Peoples Hear

1. God Wants to SAVE All Peoples in the World!

- God wants to save a person: CORNELIUS. Acts 10:1-8
- God wants to save a people: GENTILES. Acts 10:24

2. God Wants to SEND Us to All Peoples in the World!

What Stands in the Way of Going to All Peoples?

For Peter, it was his PREJUDICE against Gentiles.

God Confronts Peter's Prejudice in a Vision

The vision is not really about FOOD, but about PEOPLE.

The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. And a voice came to him, “Rise, Peter; kill and eat.” But Peter said, “Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean.” And a voice spoke to him again the second time, “What God has cleansed you must not call common.” This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again. Acts 10:9-16

Another Pivotal Moment in Peter's Life

Peter TRUSTS and OBEYS God by inviting three Gentiles into his house and then traveling to the house of Cornelius.

While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are seeking you. Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them.” Then Peter went down to the men who had been sent to him from Cornelius, and said, “Yes, I am he whom you seek. For what reason have you come?” And they said, “Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you.” Then he invited them in and lodged them. On the next day Peter went away with them, and some brethren from Joppa accompanied him. Acts 10:19-23

The Result of Peter's Changed Heart

Peter refused to be treated by Cornelius as if he were SUPERIOR, and to treat Cornelius as if he were INFERIOR.

And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together his relatives and close friends. As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Stand up; I myself am also a man.” And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together. Then he said to them, “You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean. Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?” Acts 10:24-29

Is Prejudice Standing in Your Way of Letting All Peoples Hear?

- Let us ELEVATE our identity in Christ above our identity in culture and race.
- Let us EMBRACE everyone as someone who needs to hear the Gospel of Jesus.