

## Community Group Discussion Questions

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### “Cornelius’ Salvation”

#### Acts 10:34-48

**Sermon Series Title:** “Church Beginnings”

**Sermon Series Summary:** From now until around Easter, we will be in the book of Acts, covering chapters 1-12. After the Ascension of Jesus Christ, we see the NT church being born by the power of the Holy Spirit. Through this series, we see the church being built, the kingdom going forth, and the gospel being proclaimed.

**Setting:** The book of Acts is a transitional book between the resurrection of Jesus and the established local churches of the epistles. With Jesus’ call to the church in Acts 1, we see how the gospel spreads to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the end of the earth..

**Summary:** Peter preaches the good news to Cornelius and his loved ones, who are Gentile. He preaches the same gospel he preached to the Jews: Jesus’ life, ministry, death, and resurrection. At the end of the chapter, we see the Gentiles respond with faith and repentance, and they receive the Holy Spirit just like the Pentecost. Do we trust in the gospel of Jesus Christ, and are we living in the power of the Holy Spirit?

**Main Point:** *Jesus is the good news. Do we believe?*

#### **Sermon Points:**

1. What did Peter preach?
2. What was the response?
3. What does it mean for us?

#### **Opening Question**

1. The gospel is a multi-faceted diamond. Which facet of the gospel is ministering to you during this season?

*(Answers may vary.)*

***Peter finds Cornelius and his loved ones ready to hear what he has to say. We see that he presents the gospel to them, and the Holy Spirit falls upon them.***

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2. Read Acts 10:34-43. What sticks out to you from Peter's sermon?

*(God shows no partiality- there isn't any racial, moral, ethnic, social, familial, economic, gender restrictions on the gospel.)*

*Good news of peace through Jesus- we were at war with God in our sin and Jesus has taken the wrath of God to reconcile us to Him. We have the peace of God, because we have peace with God.*

*Jesus' baptism- Jesus is our representative, He fulfills all righteousness, and He has received God's anointing and approval*

*Doing good and healing- Jesus is our Healer physically, emotionally, and spiritually.*

*Hanging him on a tree- this language brings us back to Deuteronomy 21:23 about the curse of God; Jesus received our curse for sin, so we can be blessed in Christ.*

*Death- He took on our death.*

*Raised on the third day- He is victorious over the grave, and He is God's declaration to the world that He is the savior. He is the firstfruits for us.*

*Judge of the living and the dead- He was the One judged for the sins of His people. And now He will come as judge on the last day.*

*Everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins- trust in Him.)*

3. Read Acts 10:44-48. What does the response of Cornelius and his loved ones mean for you?

*(While Peter is speaking, the Holy Spirit descends- Cornelius and his loved ones are so eager to believe that just by mentioning faith, they believe and receive the Spirit.*

*The circumcised are amazed that the Holy Spirit is poured out on Gentiles- This is the same thing that happened at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is not just for the Jews but for the world. Not only that, this shows us that we don't need to be circumcised to be brought into the people of God.*

*Baptism- instead of receiving circumcision, they receive baptism*

*Peter remains with them for some days- fellowship with Gentiles, teaching for growth)*

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4. How does this passage convict us? How does it lead us to pray?

*(Answers may vary.)*

***Final Thoughts:*** *This passage leads us to come back to Christ: His life, ministry, death, and resurrection. Who is Jesus to us? How is He ministering to us? It reminds us that we have the power and presence of the Holy Spirit inside of us. The salvation of Cornelius with his household leads us to pray for our neighbors and to proclaim this message of grace out of the overflow of the grace we have received. Have we experienced this grace today?*