LESSON 10

PETER VISITS CORNELIUS'S HOUSE



Aim: **To teach the children that all people are of equal importance to God.**

Scripture Reading: **Acts 10:1–48**

Memory Verse: **Galatians 3:28**
[Y]ou are all one in Christ Jesus.

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Imagine an important soldier comes to visit your house – a lieutenant or even a general. How will you entertain him? Give the class the opportunity to make suggestions.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. Today's story is about a retired Roman army officer called Cornelius. In those days, the Romans ruled over Palestine, the country where the Jews lived. Jesus and his disciples were Jews. The Jews call everybody who is not a Jew a "Gentile". Describe Cornelius as a person. Cornelius did not worship the false Roman idols, but followed the God of Israel, even though he was a Gentile (Acts 10:1–2).
2. **Describe Cornelius's vision.** God had heard his prayer. An angel told him that a man called Simon Peter would come to help him. He was to send messengers to Joppa to find him (10:3–6).
3. Cornelius sent his servants to find Peter. He even sent one of his personal attendants along (10:7–8).
4. They were already on their way when Peter had his vision up on the roof. **Show Picture 9 and review last week's memory verse and God's message to Peter – that the Gospel is for all people.** Peter was going to be tested. Would he remember the lesson God had taught him? Peter received the messengers. He listened to what they said, and the next day they all went to Cornelius's house (10:19–23).
5. **Describe how Cornelius welcomed Peter (10:25). Show Picture 10.** This is not the usual way a soldier greets anyone! Peter stopped Cornelius from worshipping him, as he was only a human being, like Cornelius himself (10:26).
6. Peter went into Cornelius's house. A Jew would never have entered a Gentile's house, but Peter was remembering the lesson from his vision. Many people were waiting here to hear what Peter had to say to them (10:24, 27–28).
7. Cornelius told Peter why he had sent for him (10:29–33).

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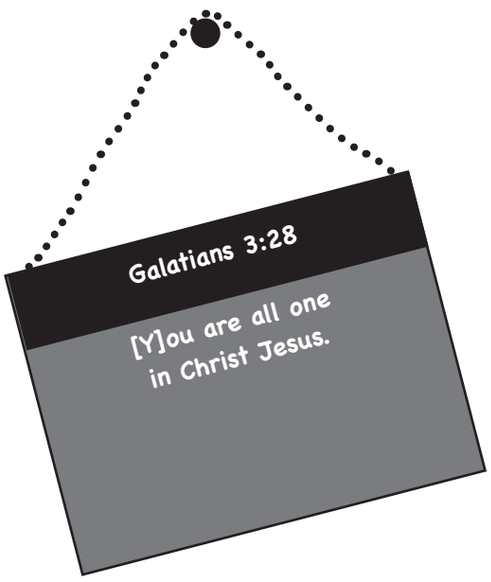


8. Peter told Cornelius who Jesus of Nazareth was and what he had come to do (10:36–43). God showed that the Gentiles are part of his church, too, by sending the Holy Spirit upon all who were gathered there (10:44–48).

Our Response to the Story

Follow up on the thoughts mentioned under this section for last week. Have we reached out to anyone beyond our church or small community with the good news about Jesus?

Instil the Memory Verse



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