

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

10-14 March 2003

ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

#9 – WHO IS YOUR CORNELIUS – GOD WANTS TO USE YOU!

INTRODUCTION:

- Can you recall a time when God clearly told you to do something? How did you respond?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION:

Note: It was against the law for Jews to associate with a Gentile or to even visit one. By faith Peter violated Jewish law. His obedience to God allowed him to see the gift of the Holy Spirit being poured out even on the Gentiles.

Read Acts 10:1-8

- What do we know about Cornelius?
- What did the angel say to him and how did he respond?
- What do you think the three men talked about on their 30-mile trip to Joppa? (22)

Read Acts 10:9-20

- In light of dietary laws for the Jews (Lev 11) how would you evaluate Peter's response?
- Why do you think Peter was told three times to eat?
- How did the Holy Spirit make it clear for Peter to enter a new phase in his life?

Read Acts 10:23, 34-35 and 44-48

- What did Peter do?
- What did the Holy Spirit do?
- How did the circumcised Jews who were with Peter respond?
- How did those in Cornelius' household respond when they heard the message?

APPLICATION:

- What are some principles or beliefs you have held that might hinder your ability to reach others? How might God be working in your life to change them?
- Who might be a Cornelius in your life? When do you plan to go see him?
- Close your group by the simple message that Peter proclaimed to Cornelius and his household.

The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)—you yourselves know the thing which took place throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed. You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. We are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross. “God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible, not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is, to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.

Acts 10:36-43