



The Family of the Church

Bigger than We Think

July 22, 2018

Scene 1- A Vision, An Angel, and a [Strange Request!](#) (Acts 10:1-8)

Acts 10:3

³ One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!"

Lesson 1- God shows up, speaks, and leads (when we are seeking)

Scene 2- A Vision, a Refusal, and a [New Way of Thinking](#) (Acts 10:9-16)

Acts 10:14-15

¹⁴ "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean."

¹⁵ The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

Lesson 2- Be careful when you think you have God nailed down and figured out

Scene 3- A Bold [Request](#) and An [Invitation In](#) (Acts 10:17-23)

Acts 10:22-23

²² The men replied, "We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to ask you to come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say."

²³ Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests.

Lesson 3- God loves to tear down barriers!

Scene 4- I Should Not Be Here, But God Is [Changing Me!](#) (Acts 10:23-33)

Acts 10:28-29

²⁸ He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean.²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"

Lesson 4- Divine calling always trumps tradition, cultural norms, and personal fears

Scene 5- God Breaks Down Walls, Loves All People, and Calls Us [To Do the Same](#)

(Acts 10:34-48)

Acts 10:34-36

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

Lesson 5- The family of God is way bigger than we dream...let's not ever limit who God will incite into His family!