

The Gospel Without Borders

Acts 10:1–35

Icebreaker

Have you ever met someone you initially thought you wouldn't get along with, but later discovered you had much more in common than you expected?

Introduction

Acts 10 marks a major turning point in the book of Acts. Until this point, the gospel had primarily spread among Jewish people and Jewish converts. Through Peter and Cornelius, God demonstrates that His salvation is for all people, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, culture, social status, or background.

This chapter challenges the barriers we build and reminds us that the gospel is bigger than our preferences, traditions, and assumptions.

Read Acts 10:1–35

Choose some of the following questions:

Observation Questions

1. What stands out to you about Cornelius' character? (vv.1–8)
2. Why do you think God gave Peter the vision? (vv.9–16)
3. What barriers existed between Jews and Gentiles at that time?
4. How did Peter respond when God challenged his thinking?
5. What does Peter conclude about God in verse 34–35?

Application Questions:

6. What biases or assumptions can prevent Christians from reaching others?
7. Are there groups of people you find difficult to relate to or engage with?
8. What barriers divide people in our society today?
9. How can our church or group become more welcoming to outsiders?

Personal Reflection

Have a time of quiet and invite people to reflect on one of the following questions individually.

1. Are there any "borders" in my heart that God wants to remove?
 2. Who am I tempted to overlook, avoid, or stereotype?
 3. What is God asking me to do this week to reach beyond my comfort zone?
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Prayer Focus

- Thank God that His salvation is available to everyone.
- Ask God to reveal any prejudice, bias, or favouritism in our hearts.
- Pray for courage to build relationships with people who are different from us.
- Pray for opportunities to share the gospel beyond our normal circles.
- Ask God to make our church a place where all people can encounter Jesus.