

The Promise of the Father (Acts 10)

God's Power Continues – Part 11
Life Church St. Louis – June 21, 2015
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

James 1:17 (NIV) Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Luke 11:11-13 (NIV) "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Luke 24:49 (NIV) I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.

Acts 1:4-5 (NIV) ... he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:38-39 (NIV) Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

1. God _____ Himself to seekers

Acts 10:1-2 (NIV) At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.

1A. God gives _____

Acts 10:4-5 (NIV) Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.

1B. _____ is required

Acts 10:7-8 (NIV) When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants. He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.

2. The good news of Jesus is for _____

Acts 10:34-35 (NIV) Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right.

2A. Jesus brings _____ with God

Acts 10:36 (NIV) You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

2B. Faith in Jesus brings _____

Acts 10:43 (NIV) All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

3. The Father's _____ is for all God's children

3A. All who believed were _____ in the Holy Spirit

Acts 10:44-45 (NIV) While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.

3B. The evidence of Spirit baptism was _____

Acts 10:46 (NIV) For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

3C. _____ baptism confirmed their faith

Acts 10:46b-48a (NIV) Then Peter said, "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Promise of the Father (Acts 10) Study Guide

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Intro. What kinds of good and perfect gifts does our heavenly Father give (James 1:17)?

Why do you think Jesus makes the point that the Holy Spirit is a good gift from the Father (Luke 11:11-13)?

Why is the promise of the Father so important for Jesus' disciples (Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5)?

Who is the promise of the Father for (Acts 2:38-39)?

1A. In what ways did Cornelius show that he was seeking God (Acts 10:1-2)?

1B. What is significant about God hearing the prayers of someone who hadn't believed in Jesus (Acts 10:3-5)?

1C. How did Cornelius' response to the angel demonstrate his heart for God (Acts 10:7-8)?

1D. How does God's revealing Himself to Cornelius show how God reveals Himself to people today who have never heard of Jesus?

2A. Why did God need to speak to Peter in a vision before he came to visit Cornelius (Acts 10:9-16)?

2B. What did Peter's conclusion to the vision mean (Acts 10:34-35)?

2C. How was Jesus central to Peter's witness to Cornelius and his household (Acts 10:36-42)?

2D. In what way was Acts 10:43 Peter's main point in speaking to Cornelius?

2E. How do you think God could use you like Peter to bring the good news of Jesus to seekers you know?

3A. What does the fact that the new believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit without specific prayer imply (Acts 10:44-45)?

3B. How did the Jews with Peter realize that the Gentiles had received the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:46)?

3C. How did water baptism complete the preparation of the new believers to serve the Lord (Acts 10:46-48)?

3D. As a father or a parent, how can you ensure that your children are saved, water baptized and Spirit baptized?