

Breaking Barriers (Acts 10)

Basic Training – Part 9

Life Church St. Louis – November 1, 2015

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Matthew 28:19a (NIV) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations ...

Acts 1:8 (NIV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

1. God is looking for _____

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 _____ Himself

Acts 10:3-4 (NIV) 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!" 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.

1B. God requires _____

Acts 10:5 (NIV) Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.

2. God is looking for _____

Acts 10:9 (NIV) About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray.

2A. God _____ us to break barriers

Acts 10:11-13 (NIV) He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat."

Acts 10:14-15 (NIV) "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."

2B. We must _____ His challenge

Acts 10:19-20 (NIV) While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them."

3. God _____ us break barriers

Acts 10:33-35 (NIV) So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us." 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.

3A. Share the _____

Acts 10:39-40, 43 (NIV) "We are witnesses of everything he [Jesus] did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. ... All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

3B. Expect God to _____

Acts 10:44-47 (NIV) While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. ... For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."

Breaking Barriers (Acts 10) Study Guide

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Intro. What kind of barriers need to be broken in order to “make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)?

How is Acts 1:8 an explanation of the steps to fulfill Matthew 28:19?

Why do you think it took a great persecution to move the disciples out of Jerusalem (Acts 8:1)?

What barriers do you think God wants us to break in order to reach others for Jesus in St. Louis?

1A. What was Cornelius lacking, even though he feared God and prayed (Acts 10:1-2)?

1B. Why did God reveal Himself to Cornelius (Acts 10:3-4)?

1C. Why do you think that the angel instructed Cornelius to send for Peter (Acts 10:5)?

1D. In what ways does God reveal Himself to God-seekers today?

2A. What were the barriers within Peter that kept him from reaching people like Cornelius (Acts 10:9)?

2B. What barriers within Peter was God breaking with the heavenly vision (Acts 10:11-13)?

2C. What does Acts 10:14-15 tell us about the barriers within Peter?

2D. How did the Spirit’s voice in Acts 10:19-20 help Peter understand the meaning of the vision?

2E. What barriers do you have within yourself that keep you from reaching others for Christ?

3A. What do Peter’s words in Acts 10:33-35 tell us has happened to his thinking?

3B. What are the essentials of the Gospel that Peter shared with Cornelius and his friends (Acts 10:39-43)?

3C. In what way did God demonstrate that Cornelius and his friends were saved (Acts 10:44-47)?

3D. Why should every believer ask God to baptize them in the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)?

3E. List the types of people that you believe God wants you to break through barriers and reach for Christ.

3F. List specific people that you will pray for and break barriers to reach for Christ in the coming year.