

November 7, 2021
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
TAKING IT TO THE STREETS // Evangelism Series
Episode 6: God Plays NO Favorites
Guest Speaker Greg Ehler

Acts 10:34–48

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. 37 You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. 39 "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. 41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues[b] and praising God. Then Peter said, 47 "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." 48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

INTRODUCTION QUESTION:

How have you been surprised by God's invitation to people you wouldn't have expected to be included?

PASSAGE CONTEXT:

Acts 10:1-33 – Peter is led by God to share Christ with unlikely hearers.

PASSAGE: Acts 10:34-48

The Realization (vs. 34-35): We realize the truth that God shows no favoritism, has no partiality and is no respecter of persons.

The Message (vs. 36-38): Jesus is the Prince of Peace and Lord of All, bringing healing and restoration as God's promised Messiah.

The Witness (vs. 39-43): We testify to how we have seen the risen Christ heal, restore, reconcile, and forgive.

The Surprise (vs. 44-48): God gives the Holy Spirit to the most unlikely people, even us.

Small Group Questions

1. Which "tribes" are difficult for you to love? Why is it so difficult for you to accept "those" people?
2. What is it about the Gospel Message that we find offensive?
3. If you had a group of people at work, in your neighborhood, or in your family who invited you to come and share, "What the Lord has commanded you to share," what would you say?" In other words, what IS the Message? What is essential to include?
4. How equipped are you to share the message? What would help you more prepared?
5. How is the Message interwoven with the witness of Peter?
6. Peter "ate and drank" with him. What personal experiences of Jesus are a part of your witness/ testimony?
7. What is your experience of the Holy Spirit personally and corporately?
8. What "outside" group is God leading you to pray for/testify to?