

## The First Non-Jewish Christians

### Acts 10:1-11:17

#### 1. The Characters

**Cornelius** – a non-Jewish devout man and his family. A soldier stationed in a Jewish port city.

**Peter** – a Jewish-Christian leader (apostle)

#### 2. The Challenges

Cornelius' Challenge – he needed someone to explain the gospel so that he could be saved.

Peter's Challenge – he did not think God would save people unless they became both Jewish and Christian.

#### 3. The Guide

The **Holy Spirit** – “The Spirit told me ...” Acts 10:10-20; 11:12

#### 4. The Plan

**Acts 10:36** 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. <sup>37</sup>You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>“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, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. <sup>41</sup>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. <sup>42</sup>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. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

#### 5. The Responses

**Cornelius and Peter** – **believe** Acts 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. .... Acts 11:16-17 Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God’s way?”

#### 6. The Paths to Failure

#### 7. Success