

GO: The Limitless Gospel

Acts 10:1-48

📖 Acts 10:1 (NIV) "At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment."

GO, knowing that God can see and smell what is real.

📖 Acts 10:2 (NIV) "He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly."

📖 Acts 10:3–8 (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!'"⁴ 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."⁵ Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.⁶ He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea."⁷ 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.⁸ He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa."

GO, knowing that God will remind you of what is real.

📖 Acts 10:9–16 (NIV) "About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray.¹⁰ He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance.¹¹ He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners.¹² It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air.¹³ Then a voice told him, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.'"¹⁴ "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean."¹⁵ The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."¹⁶ This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven."


📖 Mark 7:14–19 (NIV) "...Jesus called the crowd to Him and said, 'Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.'¹⁵ Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'"¹⁷ After He had left the crowd and entered the house, His disciples asked Him about this parable.¹⁸ "Are you so dull?" He asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a man from the outside can make him 'unclean'?¹⁹ For it doesn't go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body." (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods "clean.")"

📖 Acts 10:17–23 (NIV) "While Peter was wondering about the meaning of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out where Simon's house was and stopped at the gate.¹⁸ They called out, asking if Simon who was known as Peter was staying there.¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, 'Simon, three men are looking for you.'²⁰ So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them."²¹ Peter went down and said to the men, "I'm the one you're looking for. Why have you come?"²² The men replied, "We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to have you come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say."²³ Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests. The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa went along."

GO, knowing that God sends you to share what is real.

📖 Acts 10:24–26 (NIV) "The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends."²⁵ As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence.²⁶ But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself." I love this! Jesus is the only one that deserves reverence!

📖 Acts 10:27–35 (NIV) "Talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people."²⁸ He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean."²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"³⁰ Cornelius answered: "Four days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me³¹ and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor.'³² Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.'³³ 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."³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism³⁵ but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right."

 Acts 10:36–48 (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. ³⁷ You know what has happened throughout 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 tree, 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 the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ “Can anyone keep these people from 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.”

IMPACT

- Imitating Christ
- Meeting Needs
- **Proclaiming the Good News**
- Assimilating people into the church
- Celebrating God
- Teaching the Word of God

God can smell the difference between real and fake worship. Do you do what you do to be seen by men or do you do it for HIM? In the passage that we are looking at today, God is reminding Peter of something that He had already said. What is God reminding you to do today? What barriers exist in culture today that prevent the Gospel from being shared? Who is God calling you to GO see? What does God want you to GO say?

