Oceanside Connect Group Outline Week of November 22nd 2015



Key Scriptures Acts 10:1-7 & Acts 10:17-30

Peter and Cornelius

10 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, ² a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. ³ About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, "Cornelius." ⁴ And he stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. ⁵ And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter. ⁶ He is lodging with one Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea." ⁷ When the angel who spoke to him had departed, he called two of his servants and a devout soldier from among those who attended him, ⁸ and having related everything to them, he sent them to Joppa.

continue reading Acts 10:17-30

Discussion questions from this week's sermon

"Who do you follow?" If you were to ask that question to those <u>outside the church</u> what different answers would you get?

On Sunday we sung "I have decided to follow Jesus" a short song with some very provocative lyrics. Listen to or look at the lyrics – how do they inspire and challenge us?

In Acts chapter 10 a Roman Centurion named Cornelius received an angelic visitation to send for Peter the apostle. Why do you think Cornelius was entrusted with this task? In Acts 10:1-2 how is Cornelius described?

Later in verses 19-23 three of Cornelius' men arrive, one of which was a Roman soldier, with their request to bring Peter to Cornelius. Why did the Holy Spirit tell Peter (verse 19) what was about to happen? What might have been Peter's actions without the vision?

In what ways has God surprised you in the past? How did you know it's a God thing and not a man thing?

Cornelius was earnestly seeking after God, and God responded! His response to Cornelius' prayers was sending Peter to Caesarea to preach The Gospel which lead to an outpouring of The Holy Spirit. Do you recall a time in your life when you were earnestly seeking after God like Cornelius – how did He show up or change situations?

If you're happy sharing with the group: **What are you earnestly seeking God for?** Take time to pray towards this as a group, for those that might not have anything truly earnest we can also pray for God to burden our hearts for what burdens His.

Cornelius prayed continually and God heard Him. Peter heard God and was integral to God's answer. Through Cornelius' prayers and Peter's obedience the gospel spread to the gentiles according to God's plan. How do you see God speaking to us through this scripture? How should we respond?