



Key References:

Acts 10:29–33 (ESV)

So when I was sent for, I came without objection. I ask then why you sent for me.”³⁰ And Cornelius said, “Four days ago, about this hour, I was praying in my house at the ninth hour, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing³¹ and said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God.’³² Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon who is called Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.’³³ So I sent for you at once, and you have been kind enough to come. Now therefore we are all here in the presence of God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”

Acts 16:11–15 (ESV)

We remained in this city some days.¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together.¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.¹⁵ And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.”

John 6:63–65 (ESV)

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

1 Peter 3:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

1 – THEY STILL NEED THE GOOD NEWS

Read Acts 10:1-8. How does this scripture describe Cornelius and his knowledge of who God was? Why do righteous people still need to hear to Gospel?

Why do you think did the angel appeared to Cornelius instead of Peter? In what way do you think there are people like Cornelius in our city?

2 – GOD GIVES THE FAVORABLE AUDIENCE

Read Acts 10:33. Have you ever met someone who was as hungry for the Gospel as these people were? Have you ever prayed for an opportunity to share the Gospel and God opened an opportunity?

If God is interested in bringing the Gospel to hungry people like Cornelius, then how can we get direction from the Holy Spirit?

3 – IT’S GOD WHO OPENS HEARTS

Read 16:9-15. How was God involved in Lydia’s conversion? If we are to follow in Paul’s steps, why do we need both obedience & humility?

Read John 6:63-65. If “*the flesh is no help at all*” how should we adapt how we share the Gospel with people? What do you think it looks like to share the Gospel from the flesh?

Think about the person that you would most like to see saved. How does understanding these points effect how you might proceed?

5 – BE A FRIEND & KNOW YOUR TESTIMONY

Andy said sharing the Gospel is difficult in this time as our culture has rejected it. Why are genuine friendships with non-believers important in this post-Christian time? What fruit have you seen because of friendships like these?

Read 1 Peter 3:15. Why does scripture use the word “hope” here when it could have said gospel or truth? How important is knowing your testimony and remembering what God has done for you in sharing the Gospel?

How can you put these things into practice this week?