



THE SPIRIT: ON MISSION

Acts 10:9-15 | Nate Alcorn | May 21, 2023

While talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. He said to them: **“You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?”**

34 Then Peter began to speak: **“I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.**
- Mark 10:27-29, 34-35

God's mission for His followers: The great commandment and the great commission.

However, God's mission for the world is being hindered by the division in our hearts

1. Peter labeled the Gentiles unclean, But ONLY God gets to separate.
2. Peter was HEARING the Holy Spirit, but MISINTERPRETING what the Spirit was saying.
3. The Spirit sent Peter leaping over the barriers that separated Jews like Peter from Gentiles like Cornelius.

Jesus Crosses barriers:

- He died for sinners like us - Romans 5:8
- He enters Zacchaeus's house and dines with him — Luke 19
- He conversed with a despised Samaritan woman at a well — John 4:27
- He touches a leper — Luke 5
- He goes to Levi's house — Mark 2:15

Remember:

- We must cross barriers because there is a Cornelius on the other side.
- There is a human behind every label
- Empathy is an antidote to division

Next Steps:

1. ADMIT I have a division problem and need God's help.
2. PRAY and ask God to transform my heart
3. MEET with an individual

Questions:

1. What labels have you placed on people or groups?
2. Who is your Cornelius? The individual person the Holy Spirit is calling you to?