

ACTS CHAPTERS 10 & 11 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

• What is one opinion/belief about someone or something that you held in the past that you later found out was absolutely wrong? How did you respond?

Opening Prayer

• Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

Read the Story (Acts 10:1-48 & Acts 11:1-30)

Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

 All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Acts 10:1-8

- What was problematic about the angel instructing Cornelius to send to Joppa so that Peter could come into his home?
 - Cornelius was not only a Gentile, but he was a centurion who worked for the Roman government. He would have been known as someone who was responsible for brutalizing Jews and Jews viewed Gentiles as unclean.
 - Have you ever expected God to function and operate as you think He should? Where does this type of attitude come from and what we can we do to avoid this type of attitude?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.



Acts 10:9-23

- How was Peter allowing God to change his heart and mind about people and situations?
 - Initially, Peter wasn't allowing God to change his heart and mind about people and situations. He had grown up in certain ways and believed certain things about Gentiles all of his life. He was confused. However, he continued to listen to what God was saying and remained open to where the Spirit of God was leading, even when both contradicted what he knew to be true and how he was living.
 - How do you allow God to change your heart and mind about people and situations so that you more fully see and love as He sees and loves?
 - This is an opinion and perspective question so please listen as the facilitator.

Acts 10:24-33

- Why do you think Acts 10:24 references that Cornelius called his relatives and close friends to his house to hear a message from Peter? Keep in mind that not even Cornelius understood why Peter was coming into his house at this time.
 - The book of Acts is all about God's movements within His church and His movements cause His people to move and be on mission. Cornelius isn't even saved at this point in time (see Acts 11:14) and yet he is a remarkable example of a man who is passionately and urgently sharing a message that He knows will be from God. That message is important enough for his friends and family to hear and he doesn't want them to miss it.

Acts 10:34-48

- What truths are revealed about God and Peter in this passage?
 - We see that God desires a relationship with every single person regardless of their past, present, and/or future status. This includes their ethnicity, their socioeconomic status, their political affiliation, their sins, and SO MUCH MORE.



- We also see that Peter was indeed a bigoted/racist/prejudiced individual. His Jewish upbringing is often used to excuse this reality about him, but his Jewish upbringing doesn't negate His prejudiced attitudes, and more importantly, who God was and is. The beautiful reality is that this wasn't the end of Peter's story. He allowed God to change his heart and mind and the Gospel exploded as a result!
 - In what ways might you be bigoted/racist/prejudiced against those individuals who are unlike you? How does this hinder the spread of the Gospel in your own contexts?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Acts 11:1-18

- What criticism have you endured, or do you endure because of how you share Jesus and His message with love and respect? How do you respond to that criticism?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice that Peter's response wasn't to criticize or shame those who were criticizing him. Rather, he continued to point to the movements and work of God. He told and shared stories of how people were being transformed.
 - How can you more fully live this type of example in your own life?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Acts 11:19-30

• The church as a whole was working together (albeit in different contexts) to share the message of God but they also split into smaller groups (like Paul and Barnabas) and did this.



- How can you more fully and intentionally partner with your brothers and sisters in Christ at RCC to share God's message and love with those who don't yet know Jesus?
- How can you more fully and intentionally do this in smaller groups than our Sunday morning gatherings?
 - These are opinion and perspective questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Acts 12 & 13)



ACTS CHAPTERS 10 & 11 (STUDENT)

Discussion Starter

• What is one opinion/belief about someone or something that you held in the past that you later found out was absolutely wrong? How did you respond?

Opening Prayer

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Tell the Story

Read the Story (Acts 10:1-48 & Acts 11:1-30)

Read out loud as a group, 5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Breaking it Down

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Acts 10:1-8

- What was problematic about the angel instructing Cornelius to send to Joppa so that Peter could come into his home?
 - Have you ever expected God to function and operate as you think He should? Where does this type of attitude come from and what we can we do to avoid this type of attitude?

Acts 10:9-23

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 How do you allow God to change your heart and mind about people and situations so that you more fully see and love as He sees and loves?

Acts 10:24-33

• Why do you think Acts 10:24 references that Cornelius called his relatives and close friends to his house to hear a message from Peter? Keep in mind that not even Cornelius understood why Peter was coming into his house at this time.

Acts 10:34-48

- What truths are revealed about God and Peter in this passage?
 - In what ways might you be bigoted/racist/prejudiced against those individuals who are unlike you? How does this hinder the spread of the Gospel in your own contexts?

Acts 11:1-18

- What criticism have you endured, or do you endure because of how you share Jesus and His message with love and respect? How do you respond to that criticism?
- Notice that Peter's response wasn't to criticize or shame those who were criticizing him. Rather, he continued to point to the movements and work of God. He told and shared stories of how people were being transformed.
 - How can you more fully live this type of example in your own life?

Acts 11:19-30

- The church as a whole was working together (albeit in different contexts) to share the message of God but they also split into smaller groups (like Paul and Barnabas) and did this.
 - How can you more fully and intentionally partner with your brothers and sisters in Christ at RCC to share God's message and love with those who don't yet know Jesus?



 How can you more fully and intentionally do this in smaller groups than our Sunday morning gatherings?

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
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