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## Digital Bulletin & Sermon Notes

# WELCOME TO FRIENDSHIP

March 26, 2023

Thanks for joining us for worship today! If it's your first time visiting Friendship (in-person or online), we'd love to connect with you. Please take a minute to fill out a Connection Card below with as much info as you're comfortable giving us. Here you can let us know if you've made any decisions, need help taking a next step in your faith, or have any questions, comments, or prayer requests. We would be happy to serve you.

OUR MISSION

TODAY'S MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

If you would like to worship the Lord through giving, you may give online at the link below, text to give (dollar amount to 803-232-7355), or in-person at the black boxes at the doors or at Next Steps.

*Thanks for your generosity! Your giving is making a difference.*

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

TODAY'S SERMON NOTES

**Series:** Acts: The Church on the Move

**Speaker:** Andrew Tate

**Sermon Title:** Even on the Gentiles

**Scripture:** Acts 10-11:18

**Acts 1:8 ESV**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

**2 people groups:**

*Jews*

Gentiles

**QUOTES:**

*"A Jewish man would begin every day with a prayer thanking God that he was not a slave, a Gentile, or a woman. A basic part of the Jewish religion in the days of the New Testament was an oath that promised that one would never help a Gentile under any circumstances, such as giving directions if they were asked."*

*"If a Jew married a Gentile, the Jewish community would have a funeral for the Jew and consider them dead. It was thought that to even enter the house of a Gentile made a Jew unclean before God."*

-David Guzik

**Bottom Line:**

*The gospel that changes **everything** is available to **everyone**.*

*On two miracles at end of Acts 9 (and miracles in general)...*

**QUOTE:**

*"**First**, they reinforce the authenticity of Peter's apostleship. **Second**, they demonstrate the power of Jesus. Peter's mission to the nations is propelled by the resurrection power of Jesus. **Third**, these miracles provide signs of the coming kingdom of Jesus, who will heal the sick and raise the dead. **Finally**, these miracles aren't ends in themselves; in both stories people turn to the Lord for salvation as a result of them."*

-Tony Merida

**CORNELIUS: RELIGIOUS**

*Acts 10:1-8*

**Acts 9:43 ESV**

43 And he stayed in Joppa for many days with one Simon, a **tanner**.

**Acts 10:1-3 ESV**

1 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."

**QUOTE:**

*"The gospel isn't just for irreligious people; it's for religious people too."*

-Tony Merida

**PETER: PREJUDICED**

*Acts 10:9-33*

**Acts 10:9-33 ESV**

9 The next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. 10 And he became hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell

hungry and wanted something to eat, but while they were preparing it, he fell into a trance 11 and saw the heavens opened and something like a great sheet descending, being let down by its four corners upon the earth. 12 In it were all kinds of animals and reptiles and birds of the air. 13 And there came a voice to him: "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." 14 But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean." 15 And the voice came to him again a second time, "**What God has made clean, do not call common.**" 16 This happened three times, and the thing was taken up at once to heaven. 17 Now while Peter was inwardly perplexed as to what the vision that he had seen might mean, behold, the men who were sent by Cornelius, having made inquiry for Simon's house, stood at the gate 18 and called out to ask whether Simon who was called Peter was lodging there. 19 And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are looking for you. 20 Rise and go down and accompany them without hesitation, for I have sent them." 21 And Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for. What is the reason for your coming?" 22 And they said, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." 23 So he invited them in to be his guests. The next day he rose and went away with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him. 24 And on the following day they entered Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I too am a man." 27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. 28 And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean. 29 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 clothing 31 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."

*God is breaking down walls, and Peter's heart is changing:*

**v23-** "So he invited them in to be his guests."

#### **QUOTE:**

*"This hospitality offer may not seem like a big deal to us, but for Peter and the other Jewish Christians it signaled a huge gospel moment! Peter and others are being 'converted' out of the thinking that the good news is for the Jews alone."*

-Tony Merida

**v27-28-** "He went in"

#### **GENTILES: INCLUDED**

*Acts 10:34-11:18*

#### **Acts 10:34-36, 42-48 ESV**

34 So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36 As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all),

42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

or sins through his name.

44 While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. 45 And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. 46 For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, 47 "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

*Peter opened the door of the kingdom to **Jews & Gentiles***

#### **Matthew 16:18-19 ESV**

18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 **I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven**, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

•QUOTE:

*"The Spirit is opening **a new chapter** in the spread of salvation to the ends of the earth! The Gentiles too are children of Abraham—not through circumcision, but by grace alone, through faith in Christ alone.*

***The massive gulf between Jew and Gentile was suddenly bridged."***

-Tony Merida

Acts 11- Criticism comes, but Peter retells events.

***Peter's conclusion:***

v17- If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, **who was I that I could stand in God's way?"**

***Jews' conclusion:***

v18- When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "**Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.**"

#### **Galatians 3:28-29 ESV**

28 **There is neither Jew nor Greek**, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, **for you are all one in Christ Jesus**. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

#### **Romans 10:12-13 ESV**

12 **For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all**, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

*HOW DO WE LIVE IN LIGHT OF THIS?*

#### **Romans 15:7 ESV**

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God

...

## THANKS FOR JOINING US!

Thanks so much for worshipping with us today! If you're new to Friendship, or to God and church in general, please connect with us or check out any of the links below. We'd be happy to answer any questions you may have, pray for you, or serve you in any way we can.

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