

Following the Real Jesus: To the Gentiles

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Romans 1:16; Acts 10:4-6, 9-16, 19-20

Acts 10:28, 36, 38-48; John 5:44

Following the Real Jesus: The purpose of the church is to make disciples who make disciples.

Christ died for our sins. He was buried. He was raised. He appeared. And I believe it.

¹⁶ I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. Romans 1:16

The good news is the power of God. God at work in your life. God seen through your life.

⁴ Cornelius stared at the angel. He became afraid and said, “What do you want, Lord?” The angel said, “God has heard your prayers. He has seen that you give to the poor, and he remembers you. Acts 10:4

⁵ Send some men now to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is also called Peter. ⁶ He is staying with a man, also named Simon, who is a tanner and has a house beside the sea.” Acts 10:5–6

It is God’s purpose for his followers to share the gospel—despite our limited time, energy, and focus.

Purpose reveals your destiny. Life is more than your day-to-day activities.

⁹ About noon the next day as they came near Joppa, Peter was going up to the roof to pray. Acts 10:9

¹⁰ He was hungry and wanted to eat, but while the food was being prepared, he had a vision. ¹¹ He saw heaven opened and something coming down that looked like a big sheet being lowered to earth by its four corners. Acts 10:10–11

¹² In it were all kinds of animals, reptiles, and birds. ¹³ Then a voice said to Peter, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat.” ¹⁴ But Peter said, “No, Lord! I have never eaten food that is unholy or unclean.” Acts 10:12-14

¹⁵ But the voice said to him again, “God has made these things clean, so don’t call them unholy!” ¹⁶ This happened three times, and at once the sheet was taken back to heaven. Acts 10:15-16

¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Listen, three men are looking for you. ²⁰ Get up and go downstairs. Go with them without doubting, because I have sent them to you.” Acts 10:19–20

Peter knows how to pray and listen.

²⁸ He said, “You people understand that it is against our law for Jewish people to associate with or visit anyone who is not Jewish. But God has shown me that I should not call any person ‘unholy’ or ‘unclean.’” Acts 10:28

³⁶ You know the message that God has sent to the people of Israel is the Good News that peace has come through Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Lord of all people! Acts 10:36

³⁸ You know about Jesus from Nazareth, that God gave him the Holy Spirit and power. You know how Jesus went everywhere doing good and healing those who were ruled by the devil, because God was with him. Acts 10:38

³⁹ We saw what Jesus did in Judea and in Jerusalem, but the Jews in Jerusalem killed him by hanging him on a cross. ⁴⁰ Yet, on the third day, God raised Jesus to life and caused him to be seen, Acts 10:39–40

⁴¹ not by all the people, but only by the witnesses God had already chosen. And we are those witnesses who ate and drank with him after he was raised from the dead. Acts 10:41

⁴² He told us to preach to the people and to tell them that he is the one whom God chose to be the judge of the living and the dead. Acts 10:42

⁴³ All the prophets say it is true that all who believe in Jesus will be forgiven of their sins through Jesus' name." ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit came down on all those who were listening. Acts 10:43-44

⁴⁵ The Jewish believers who came with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been given even to the nations. ⁴⁶ These believers heard them speaking in different languages and praising God. Acts 10:45-46a

^{46b} Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we did!" Acts 10:46b-47

⁴⁸ So Peter ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days. Acts 10:48

Who are your "these people"? They would never...

Be my witnesses. Tell your story of Jesus.

What was my life like before I met Jesus? How did I hear about Jesus and choose to trust in him?

What is your life like now that you know Jesus?

Use an example

1. A problem
2. How God changed the problem
3. Victory since then (e.g. freedom from alcoholism, overcoming a bad temper, finding a way to forgive someone, etc.)

⁴⁴ You try to get praise from each other, but you do not try to get the praise that comes from the only God. So how can you believe? John 5:44