

THE UNEXPECTED:
THE GOSPEL REACHES THE WORLD
(ACTS 10-12)
APRIL 26, 2026



True following of Jesus without explanation for obedience. God's calling will never violate Scripture, but it will often challenge your thinking.

Movement + Mission = Mountains Moving

God often works in ways that challenge our traditions, thoughts, and translations. Truth is without restraint or regard.

Do you believe that God can do what even your expectations cannot explain?

Peter, the man who often challenged Jesus (washing of feet, for example) is changed so he ushers in the movement of reaching the Gentiles (the whole world) with the Gospel.

Holy Spirit is **always** the seal of the true moving of God

1. The Holy Spirit prepares hearts before He changes systems

- Holy Spirit prepared Cornelius for His indwelling, life-changing power. Timing matters!
- The people's hearts were ready to hear the Word of God. Prepared hearts desire the heart of God: the Word
- Good, religious living does not replace Holy Spirit power. Fake versus Fire!

2. Holy Spirit must remove all prejudices and partialities for His power to be clear.

- Peter was more committed to his convictions than the calling of God
- What traditions, translations, trust-issues are holding you back from full commitment to the working of God?
- Peter's conclusion becomes the call of the Church: The Gospel is for ALL humanity!

3. Holy Spirit must be the One who unifies the body of Christ: the Church

- Man cannot stand in the way of what Holy Spirit is doing
- Barnabas and Paul catch the vision for the Gentiles and reach large crowds
- God does the miraculous so the **Word of God** spreads, not the fame of men!
- Following Jesus requires us to have the faith that He can exceed our expectations and work through us to reach the world with the Gospel.

Are you following your expectations or are you following Jesus beyond your expectations?

1. Read Acts 10:15 and Mark 7:18-19.

Why did Peter struggle to accept what Jesus had already taught? What traditions could you be holding that need biblical correction? How do cultural influences affect our obedience to Jesus?

2. Read Acts 10:34-35 and Romans 2:11.

What does it mean that God shows no partiality? How should this aspect affect how you view others? What are some areas that make it difficult to not show partiality?

3. Read Acts 10:44-48 and Ephesians 1:13-14.

What role does the Holy Spirit play in salvation? What are some ways that you try to do the work of Holy Spirit? How does Holy Spirit's work confirm genuine faith?

4. Read Acts 11:17-18 and Titus 3:5-7.

How is repentance described as a gift from God? How should this truth shape your understanding of salvation?

5. Read Acts 11:21 and Matthew 28:19-20.

What responsibility does the church have in reaching others? How does this responsibility relate to you personally? How does this correlate with our theme Core to Corners?

6. Read Acts 12:24 and Isaiah 55:11.

How does God ensure the success of His Word? How does this surety encourage you in difficult seasons?