

November 28, 2021

BIBLE LESSON

13



**KEY VERSES:** 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.” (Acts 10:34-35)



# Including Everyone

**Lesson Scripture: Acts 10:34-47**

## God's Word

**34** Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism **35** but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. **36** You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. **37** You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— **38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. **39** We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, **40** but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. **41** He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. **42** He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. **43** All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” **44** While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. **45** The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. **46** For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, **47** “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.”

# Bible Story

## Including Everyone

Acts 10:34-47

In today's Scripture passage, Peter was preaching the Good News of Jesus. Peter told the people that he understood the truth; God does not show favoritism to certain people. God accepts all and the Gospel is for all. God accepts from every nation those who fear Him and who will do what is right.

Peter told his listeners that they had heard this message of the Good News of peace through Jesus Christ. He told them that they knew where John the Baptist had preached about baptism. He reminded them of how the Holy Spirit and power were poured down on Jesus there.

Peter added, "We saw everything he did." They had seen them kill Jesus. They knew God had raised Him. He was seen by only a few witnesses, a few people chosen by God. The people that saw Him were the same people who ate with Jesus after He arose. Jesus told Peter and the others to preach that He is the one whom God had appointed judge of the living and the dead. The prophets had already spoken of this, saying that "all who believe in him will be forgiven by his power."

While Peter spoke, the Holy Spirit came upon the believers. Many were shocked and heard others speaking in strange *tongues* (languages) and praising God. Then Peter said, "They received the Holy Spirit, like we did. Can anyone stop them from being baptized?"

## It's for Everyone!

(Part 1)

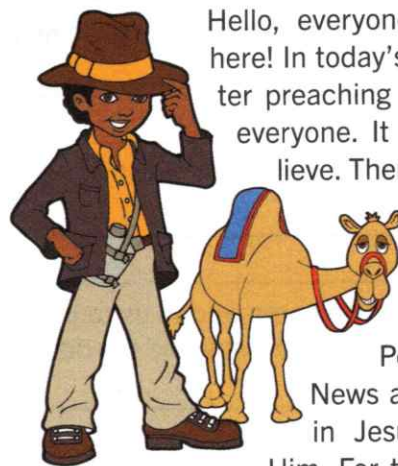
Ella always liked to go to Dr. Cooper's office. As Ella sat in the waiting room, she noticed the large sign over the basket of fruit that read "For All!" However, she noticed that while some people would take a piece of fruit, others would just walk on by.

"Mom, do you see that basket of fruit? The sign reads, 'For All!' Why do some people get a piece of fruit and others don't? Don't they know that *all* means 'everyone'?" Ella asked.

"Dr. Cooper put it there knowing that it is good for us all. She put a sign over it to let everyone know that it is available. I think they know what 'all' means, but they may not want it," Mom explained.

"But why pass by something that you can have that is good for you? Why would they pass by something like that?" Ella inquired.

## Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius



Hello, everyone! Nicholas and Cornelius here! In today's Scripture text, we find Peter preaching that the Good News is for everyone. It is available to all who believe. There are no favorites with God.

After Jesus' resurrection, the community of believers grew. People from all around heard about Jesus.

Peter preached the Good News and welcomed all to believe in Jesus Christ. Many accepted Him. For those that did not, what do

you think stopped them from believing?

## Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

### It's for Everyone!

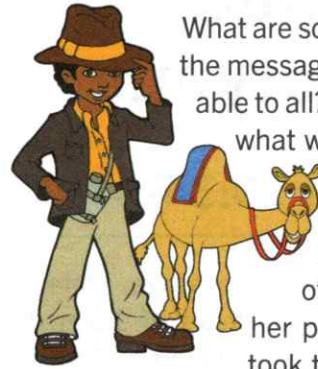
#### (Part 2)

"Dr. Cooper doesn't *make* us take it. She knows that some will, and others will not," Mom began to explain. "She tells us that it is for us all. If you want a piece of fruit, you get to make the decision. You know that Dr. Cooper always talks to us about eating healthy things and practicing healthy eating habits. See, there are signs and messages on the walls to remind us. But Dr. Cooper does not make us take the fruit."

"So, the message is for *everyone*. It's knowing how important it is," Ella replied.

"You've got it!" Mom exclaimed. "Now, how about some fruit?"

Ella grabbed both her and her mother a piece of the good fruit.



What are some good ways to share the message of Jesus' being available to all? Peter preached about what was good for those that did not believe. Dr. Cooper placed a sign and a basket of fruit to offer something good to her patients. For those who took the fruit, what did they get? To believe and receive the Holy Spirit as a gift is the most powerful thing that can happen in life.

## The Good News: True or False?

Read each sentence below that is related to today's lesson. Circle **T** if the statement is true, or **F** if it is false. If the statement is false, use the lines below the sentence to rewrite the statement to make it true.

**T or F**

1. Peter realized that God treats everyone differently.

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**T or F**

2. Peter said that he went everywhere, doing good and healing.

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**T or F**

3. Peter said that the people were not witnesses of everything he did.

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**T or F**

4. Peter said that he commanded us to preach the Gospel to people—that he is the one whom God appointed judge of the living and the dead.

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**T or F**

5. While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit came down on those who were listening to the message.

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