

Go Make Disciples of All Nations- Acts 10:1-48

1. Mission of Expansion vs. 1-8

The mission expanded to the gentiles the moment Cornelius, a gentile, was seeking God and God responded through directing him to find Peter in Joppa so that he may hear the gospel.

The Mission today has expanded and continues to expand to all nations just as Jesus foretold, and therefore we have brothers and sisters in Christ from all cultures.

2. Mission of Obedience vs. 9-23

Peter was challenged during his time of prayer to not live within his restrictive preferences, but rather to keep in step with God's plan; to visit Cornelius.

A disciple of Jesus must live according to their new identity in Christ and not allow their restrictive preferences from their old identity to dictate how they live for God.

Mission without Favourites vs. 24-48

Peter met Cornelius, heard his experience with God, realized that God does not show favouritism, and therefore he shared the gospel, and those who heard the message received the Holy Spirit.

Favouritism is never an option when it comes to living a life for Christ, as God desires to see all cultures, backgrounds and nations to receive the good news of Jesus Christ.

Main Idea:

A disciple of Jesus must trust God through obeying his plans without displaying a hint of favouritism, as the mission today has continued to be ordained by God to reach all nations.

Deployment:

- 1) Peter needed a drastic message from God to overcome his restricting preferences that would hinder him from ministering to a gentile man named Cornelius. Peter's wrestling with the convictions from God, was due to the identity he had before he came to Christ. His former identity would never associate with gentiles because they ate unclean food and therefore, they were seen as unclean as well (Leviticus 20:24-26). However, he now had a new identity in Christ which allowed him to live a new way; to be able to go make disciples of all nations (no favoritism). We too can struggle when we do not focus on our identity in Christ. Take a look at the following passages, and then write down what your new identity in Christ looks like.

Ephesians 4:17-32; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21; Romans 8:1-17

- 2) While reflecting on your identity in Christ, think about the preferences that were instilled in you from your old identity. What preferences within your old identity could still cause you to be defiant towards God's plan for your life? (Sharing the Gospel with others, living according to God's Word... etc.)
- 3) What scriptures do you focus on to help you live life within your identity in Christ?