

Acts-Revelation

Cornelius trusts Jesus

Acts 10:1-48

Younger Verse

Change your ways and be baptized. Acts 2:38a

Older Verse

Change your ways and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Acts 2:38a

Welcome Time

If you got a message to visit an important person, would you go? Let's see what Peter does.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

There was a man named Cornelius who knew about God. He was an officer in the army. One day, in the afternoon, he saw an angel come to him and say, "Cornelius, God has heard your prayers. He has seen how you have helped many people. Send some men to go find a man named Peter. He will be at a house by the sea."

Cornelius called his servants and told them to travel to a town called Joppa to find Peter.

The next day they came to where Peter was staying. They asked him to come back with them. Peter agreed because an angel told him that he must do this in a very special dream..

When they arrived at Cornelius' house, Peter saw a big group of people gathered together. He began to speak to the people. He said, "You people understand that it is against our law for me to be with you or visit you because you are not like us. But God has shown me in a dream that He loves all people and accepts them just as they are. Now, tell me why you sent for me."

Cornelius spoke, "Four days ago, I was praying in my house. Suddenly there was an angel beside me. He told me that God heard my prayers and he told me to send for you to come."

Peter began to speak, "I really understand now that to God every person is the same. God accepts anyone who worships him and does what is right. It is not important what country a person comes from. You know that God has sent His message to the people.

Lesson Goals

See that God loves all people the same
Understand that Jesus died for EVERYONE!
Make a decision to trust Jesus

That message is the Good News that peace has come through Jesus Christ. We all saw the things that Jesus did everywhere He went. But they killed Him by nailing Him to a cross. On the third day, God raised Jesus to life and caused Him to be seen! Everyone who believes in Jesus will be forgiven. God will forgive our wrongs through Jesus. God showed His love for us by sending Jesus. We must trust Him and only Him to go to Heaven.”

When Cornelius heard this he knew that he must trust Jesus. And he did. Many of the people at his house trusted Jesus that day and they were baptized.

We may know about God too, but that is not enough. We must trust Jesus and believe in Him. That is the only way for us to go to Heaven.

Share how God loves all people and does not have any favorites. Talk about how wonderful it is to know that God loves us and cares so much that He sent His Son, Jesus.

Learning Activities

There are activities in the packet to help your kids remember the lesson. Choose the one(s) that are most appropriate.

Memory Verse Activities

Bring a toy that transforms into another figure. Talk about how it changes. Now share how we change and follow God with all our heart when we believe. Ask the kids to name some ways a person will change when they believe in Jesus.

Prayer Time

Ask about requests that have been mentioned in the past. It means so much to kids when they know that you are praying for them by name. Take time to find out how you can pray for them.

Clean Up/Snack time

Ask several of the kids to help you pass out treats AFTER everything is picked up. You may announce at the beginning of the Bible study that the most helpful person will help pass out treats or juice. This usually is good incentive for the group to behave appropriately.

Planning for March 21st
The Church gets bigger
Acts 11:19-30

Preschool Lesson
For
Cornelius trusts Jesus

One time in the Bible there was a man named Cornelius who knew about God but did not really understand. Suddenly one day, an angel appeared to him. The angel told Cornelius to send for a man named Peter. Peter would help him understand who God really was.

Cornelius was so excited. He sent several people to go to Peter's house. When they arrived, they talked to Peter and asked him to come and visit Cornelius.

Peter was excited to go because an angel had told him to go and tell Cornelius about God and Jesus.

Cornelius knew that Peter had much to say. He invited all his family and friends to come and hear Peter's good news.

Peter told them that God loves every person. He shared that it is not important what they look like. Peter told them that Jesus was God's Son. He explained how Jesus died and came back to life.

When Cornelius heard the news, he immediately wanted to trust in Jesus! His family and friends did too! They were very glad to know that God loved them!

God loves us too! He wants us to believe in Him and love Him with all our heart.

Sing, "God is so good."

Hands-On Activities
For
Cornelius trusts Jesus

Peter had a dream about animals. God used that dream to help Peter see that all people are important to God. Snack on animal crackers to remember that God loves all people.

Bring some sardines from the food pantry or other unusual meat product. In Peter's dream, God helped him know that he could eat anything. In the same way, God was helping Peter to see that all people are accepted by God and He loves all people very much!

Help the kids know that God loves them and cares for them just the way they are. God made us and thinks we are special!

Cornelius and Peter were both praying to God. Take time to share how important it is to pray. Share with the kids what it means to pray and how to pray. Bring bracelets of yarn or thread and challenge the kids to pray everyday and use the bracelets as reminders.

Peter knew exactly what to say to Cornelius. Peter told him about Jesus. He knew that Jesus had died and came back to life. Do your kids know what Jesus has done for them or how to share it with others? Talk to them to see if they are Christians and then help them know how they can tell others about Jesus like Peter did.
