



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Interactive Sunday school Outline

TOPIC: **The Good News**

TEXT: **Acts 10:23-48**

Instructions: *Instructions: - Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: Some news is so good it simply *must be* shared: a long-awaited engagement, the birth of a baby, a great success or triumph. We feel we will burst unless we tell someone what has happened! The early evangelists felt that way about the gospel. They wanted to tell everyone the good news of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ. If we are to recapture their sense of wonder and excitement, we too must grasp what Jesus has done and why it is the best news people will ever hear.

1. Apart from the gospel, what is some of the best news you have ever received? How did it make you feel?
2. Acts 10:23-26. What evidence is there that Cornelius was eagerly awaiting Peter's arrival?
3. What circumstances brought this scrupulous Jew into the home of a Gentile (v. 27-33)?
4. These circumstances helped to overturn Peter's sense of racial superiority (v. 34-35). Why is it important to realize that the gospel transcends racial, economic, social and political barriers?
5. Why do you think Peter begins his message to these Gentiles by characterizing the gospel as "the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all" (v. 36)?
6. Jesus' three-year ministry is summarized in verses 37-38. How do these verses capture the essence of his ministry?
7. Deut. 21:23 states that "anyone who is hung on a tree is under God's curse." How would you explain to someone today why Jesus, who was anointed and blessed by God, died under his curse (v. 39)?
8. How would you explain to a friend why it is significant that C raised Jesus from the dead (v. 40)?
9. Twice Peter mentions that he and others are "witnesses" of what he is describing (v. 39, 41). Why do you think he stresses this fact!
10. God commanded the apostles to testify that Jesus will judge the living and the dead (v. 42). How does this "bad news" highlight the good news in verse 43?
11. How would you explain to someone what it means to *believe in* Jesus (v. 43)?
12. Imagine that you, like Cornelius and his friends, are hearing the truth about Jesus for the first time. In what sense would the gospel seem like good news to you?
13. Verses 44-46 have been called the "Pentecost of the gentile world." Why was this event significant for both Peter and those who experienced it?
14. Look back over the passage. What are the essential facts about Jesus that Peter mentions?

15. In this passage God goes to extraordinary lengths to spread the good news. This emphasizes the importance he places on the message of salvation. What can you do to learn the gospel message better?