

# THE LAUNCH

*“you shall be witnesses to Me and to the **end of the earth**”*

Group Teaching | Younger Men | 28 March 2023  
**Acts 9:32 to 10:48 (ESV)**

**[staffmtg.syfc.org.sg](http://staffmtg.syfc.org.sg) | [biblestudy.syfc.org.sg](http://biblestudy.syfc.org.sg)**

# STORY FLOW

Commission of Saul to Paul  
(Acts 9:1-31)

**Repeated Theme**  
Peter/John healed a lame (3:1-10)  
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**Two miracles by Simon Peter**  
(Acts 9:32-42)

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Vision to Saul (9:3-9)  
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**Two visions from God**  
To Cornelius (Gentile)  
To Simon Peter (Jew)  
(Acts 10:1-16)

**Unlawful Meet-Up**  
btw Gentiles & Jews  
(Acts 10:17-33)

**Repeated Theme (Peter's Preaching)**  
1) 2:14-41 3) 4:5-22  
2) 3:11-26 4) 5:29-32

**The Message**  
(Acts 10:34-43)

**The Holy Spirit**  
(Acts 10:44-48)

## 3 KEY LESSONS

**1:** **Imitation after Christ** enables Peter to perform miracles continuously

**2:** **Intervention from God** enables unexpected meet-up to take place

**3:** **Power from the Holy Spirit** enables salvation extended now to the **Gentiles**

## BIG PICTURE

**In Jerusalem**  
Witness begins in Jerusalem 1:1 - 6:7  
**(summary at 2:41,47; 4:4, 6:7)**

**In Judea and Samaria**  
Witness expands beyond Jerusalem 6:8 - 9:31  
**(summary at 9:31)**

**To the end of the earth**



*Because of the Arrival of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2)*

## BIG IDEA

**"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."** Acts 1:8

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HS came to Jews in Jerusalem (2:1-13)  
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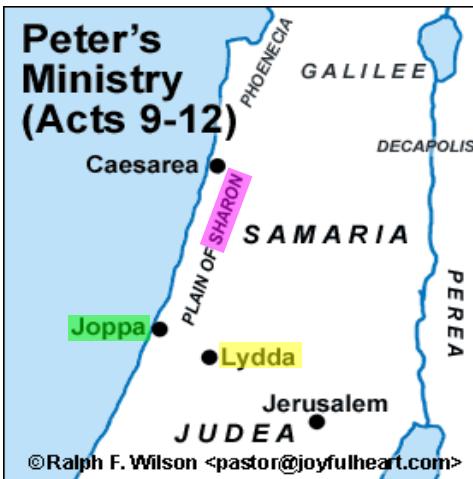
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	<b>Aeneas</b>	<b>Tabitha aka Dorcas</b>
<b>Reference</b>	Acts 9:32-35	Acts 9:36-42
<b>Situation</b>	Male Bedridden 8yrs & paralyzed	A female disciple full of good works & charitable deeds became sick and died
<b>Location</b>	Lydda	Joppa
<b>Power seen in Peter</b>	<i>"Aeneas, Jesus the Christ heals you. Arise and make your bed."</i>	Peter knelt down & prayed in solitude <i>"Tabitha, Arise."</i>
<b>What happened</b>	Aeneas rose immediately	Tabitha opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.
<b>Any witnesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All who dwelt at Lydda</li> <li>• All who dwelt at Sharon</li> </ul> <p>Sharon is located east of the Jordan River in an area given to the tribe of Gad (1Chronicles 5:16)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peter presented Tabitha alive in front of the saints and widows</li> <li>• Simon, a tanner (who transforms animal skins / hides into leather)</li> </ul>
<b>They saw &amp; turned to the Lord v35</b>		<b>Many (thru"out Joppa) believed in the Lord v42</b>

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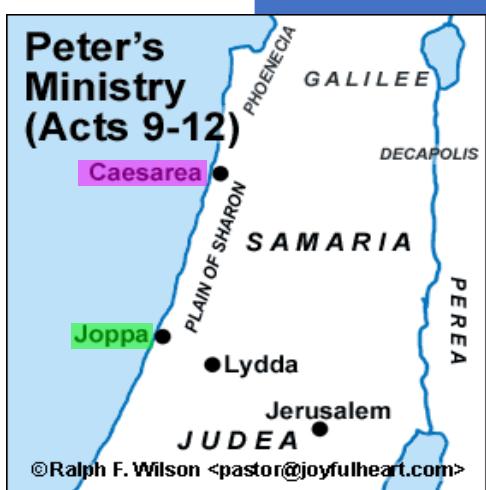
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## REFLECTIONS

Peter's imitation after Christ to authenticate the gospel work.

Commission of Saul to Paul (Acts 9:1-31)	STORY FLOW	Cornelius' Vision	Peter's Vision
	Reference	Acts 10:1-8	Acts 10:9-16
	Background	<b>Peter's POV</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upbringing understanding: <b>no association</b> with "common" &amp; "unclean" animals</li> </ul> <b>God's POV</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I have already <b>cleansed</b> them</li> <li>Thus, now <b>no longer</b> "common/unclean"</li> </ul>	He went up on the housetop to pray He was very hungry & wanted to eat He fell into a trance
	Time	<a href="https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/gills-exposition-of-the-bible/acts-10-28.html">https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/gills-exposition-of-the-bible/acts-10-28.html</a>	
3 KEY LESSONS	Delivery of Vision	<p><b>Why Jews must not have any association with Gentiles?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forbidden by the law of Moses (Deut 7:2-3)</li> <li>Forbidden by the traditions from elders</li> <li>It's a criminal offense</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☒ covenants / marriage with Gentiles</li> <li>☒ Eat / drink in their houses</li> <li>☒ walking on the streets with Gentiles</li> </ul> <p>He explained to 2 household servants + a devout soldier and sent them to Joppa.</p>	
2:	Intervention from God enables unexpected meet-up to take place	<p>A voice came to Peter: <b>"Rise, Peter; kill and eat."</b></p> <p>Peter said, <b>"Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean."</b></p> <p>A voice to Peter: <b>"What God has cleansed you must not call common."</b> x3</p> <p>And the <b>object was taken up</b> into heaven again.</p> <p>While Peter was inwardly perplexed / pondering on it, the Spirit directed him to meet the 3px.</p>	
		<p>©Ralph F. Wilson &lt;pastor@joyfulheart.com&gt;</p>	

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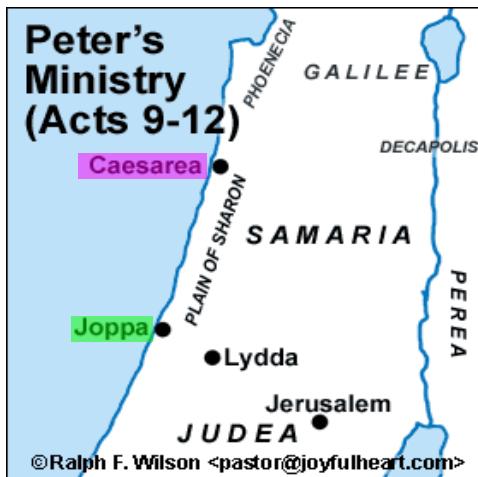
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V17-33

## HOW TWO VISIONS COMPLIMENT EACH OTHER

**Intervention from God** enables unexpected meet-up to take place

**2:** unexpected meet-up to take place



1. Cornelius's 3pax men **arrived at Joppa** (Simon's house – tanner)
2. **They explained** the divine instruction for Cornelius to find Peter
3. Peter **invited them to stayover** for one night
4. Peter (with some brothers from Joppa) **start travelling to Caesarea** together with Cornelius's men
5. Cornelius, relatives and close friends are **waiting for Peter's arrival**
6. Cornelius **fell down** at his feet and **worshipped** Peter
7. Peter **said to all** in Cornelius' house:

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**2:** Intervention from God enables unexpected meet-up to take place



**AGAINST ALL THESE ODDS, PETER STILL OBEYED GOD's INSTRUCTION:**

- Against historical upbringing, Jewish law, social norms
- No association btw Jews & Gentiles
- Do not know each other beforehand
- Timing of visions
- All four visions (Anaias, Saul, Cornelius, Saul) pointing to one direction
- Peter as the legit person (to augurate the way for Paul)
- Despite human limitation

*Peter: I don't know how to make sense*

*Cornelius: I expect you to tell us something*

- Peter was mindful to bring joppa brothers as witnesses so that he can explain back to the Jewish ldrs that it's legit now to see salvation extended to Gentiles

**"Now therefore, we are all present b4 God, to hear all the things commanded you by God."**

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## REFLECTIONS

Peter's imitation after Christ to authenticate the gospel work.

Intervention from God is seen even today!

Therefore, **be opportunistic** when God creates unexpected meet-up

e.g. motorcycle accident in late Aug 2022 to now

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**3:** Power from the  
Holy Spirit enables  
salvation granted  
now to the **Gentiles**

Take time to read  
slowly **10:34-48**.

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said:  
"In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.  
<sup>35</sup> But in every nation whoever fears Him and  
works righteousness is accepted by Him.  
<sup>36</sup> The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel,  
preaching peace through Jesus Christ  
--- He is Lord of all ---

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<sup>37</sup> that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached:  
<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

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Take time to read  
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<sup>39</sup> And we are witnesses of all things which He did  
both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem,  
whom they killed by hanging on a tree.

<sup>40</sup> Him God raised up on the third day,  
and showed Him openly,

<sup>41</sup> not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen  
before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him  
after He arose from the dead.

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4<sup>2</sup> And He commanded us to preach to the people,  
and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God  
*to be* Judge of the living and the dead.

4<sup>3</sup> To Him all the prophets witness that,  
through His name, whoever believes in Him  
will receive remission of sins."

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Take time to read  
slowly **10:34-48**.

<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words,  
the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.

<sup>45</sup> And those of the circumcision who believed  
were astonished, as many as came with Peter,  
because the gift of the Holy Spirit  
had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

<sup>46</sup> For they heard them speak with tongues  
and magnify God. Then Peter answered,

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slowly **10:34-48**.

47 "Can anyone forbid water,  
that these should not be baptized  
who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *have*?"

48 And he commanded them to be baptized  
in the name of the Lord.  
Then they asked him to stay a few days.

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Summarizing  
10:34-48

V34-38  
**Gospel of  
Jesus**

- God does not show bias favouritism to any
- He is fair towards all who fears and lives rightly before Him
- He grants us **Peace** through Jesus who is our **Lord** of all
- Proclamation of Jesus had taken place from Jerusalem to other regions
- God has given Jesus the Holy Spirit & Power to perform miraculous works
- For God is with Jesus

V39-43  
**God's PP  
as witnesses**

- We witnessed **His death** on the cross & **His resurrection** after 3 days
- Jesus appeared before us and was among us
- He commanded us to **preach** and **testify** that He is the Judge
- Salvation is only through **believing** in Him to receive **forgiveness** of sins

V39-48  
**God's PP  
now extended**

- **Holy Spirit fell upon the Gentiles** who heard from Simon Peter
- **Brothers (from Joppa) who came with Peter** were astonished as witnesses
- The Gentiles speak with tongues and **magnify** God
- Peter commanded these saved Gentiles **to be baptized** in the Jesus' Name

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Intervention from God is seen even today!

Therefore, **be opportunistic** when God creates unexpected meet-up

e.g. motorcycle accident in late Aug 2022 to now

Power from Holy Spirit is seen even today!

Therefore, **be astonished** when we **hear stories of life changed**

e.g. Scott's late wife – brother from Msia

# THANK YOU JESUS FOR THE BLOOD

Charity Gayle

Jesus'  
Resurrection

Our  
Response  
**THANKFUL**

Thank You Jesus  
for the blood applied  
Thank You Jesus,  
it has washed me white  
Thank You Jesus,  
You have saved my life  
Brought me from the darkness  
into glorious Light

Our  
Response  
**GLORY2GOD**

Closure  
Glory to His Name  
There to **my heart**  
was the blood applied

#1 I was a wretch  
I remember who I was  
I was lost, I was blind  
I was running out of time

Our Condition  
Before God

Sin separated  
The breach was far too wide  
But from the far side of the chasm  
You held me in Your sight

So You made a way  
Across the great divide  
Left behind Heaven's throne  
To build it here inside

And there at the cross  
You paid the debt I owed  
Broke my chains, freed my soul  
For the first time I had **HOPE**

Jesus'  
Death

#2 You took my place  
Laid inside my tomb of sin  
You were buried for three days  
But then You walked right out again  
  
And now death has no sting  
And life has no end  
For I have been transformed  
By the blood of the Lamb

## Bridge

*There is nothing stronger  
Than the wonder working  
power of the blood, the blood  
That calls us sons and daughters  
We are ransomed by our Father  
Through the blood, the blood*

Our New  
Identity  
in Him