

CONTEND:

Praying with Vision [Acts 10]

1. God can challenge what we think we already know (Acts 10:9–16)

Peter's vision makes no sense to him. Everything he has learned tells him that these animals are unclean, but God is beginning to challenge his understanding. Sometimes following God means being willing to let him question assumptions we have become very sure about.

2. Peter moves before he fully understands (Acts 10:17–23)

Peter is still puzzling over the vision when there is a knock at the door. The Holy Spirit tells him to go with the visitors, so Peter responds even though he doesn't yet understand where it will lead. Sometimes clarity comes as we respond to what God puts in front of us.

3. God is already at work (Acts 10:24–48)

When Peter meets Cornelius and hears his story, he begins to understand: "God shows no favouritism." God has been at work in Cornelius while also speaking to Peter. Peter needed to go, meet him and listen before he could see the bigger picture.

DISCUSS

Starter: Have you ever been completely sure something wasn't for you — and then changed your mind? What changed it?

1. Peter doesn't understand his vision straight away. What helps us discern whether a nudge, idea or unexpected opportunity might be from God?
2. Peter begins to understand when he responds to the "knock at the door" and listens to Cornelius. Where might God use other people or unexpected situations to help us see something differently?
3. Is there anything in your life where you may have decided the answer is obviously "no"? What might it mean simply to "peer around" that no and ask God if there is something you haven't seen yet?

Digging Deeper: Read Acts 11:1–18. How does Peter explain what happened to Christians who initially criticised him? What convinces them that God is at work?

We believe our God-given vision is see: thriving communities springing up, where everyone can belong and find hope in Jesus.

Group Sunday message notes 2026

