THE GENTILES ARE CONVERTED

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ACTS 10:34-48



The STORY

Read about the conversion of the Gentiles in Acts 10:34-48.

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

• What did Peter tell the Gentiles? (Peter told the Gentiles the story of Jesus' death and resurrection.)

• How could the people trust that what Peter was saying was true? (Peter shared that Jesus had been seen alive after His death. It was not just a made up story. Peter said he saw Jesus himself.)

• Why was it amazing to Peter that Gentiles would be touched by God with salvation? (In the past, God only blessed the people of Israel with His Spirit and His care. It surprised Peter that God was touching Gentiles, those people who were not a part of Israel.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: people lifting their hands to God. Engage the children by asking:

• What happened to the Gentiles Peter preached the Gospel to? (The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on them and they spoke in tongues.)

• What exactly is speaking in tongues? (Speaking in tongues is a spiritual gift that God gives to those who have believed in Jesus and been filled with the spirit of God. In I Corinthians 14:5 Paul tells the Corinthians that he wishes all the Corinthian church spoke in tongues. It is a spiritual talk that normally cannot be understood by anyone but God. It is a type of praise for God in special words that He helps us to speak.)

• What did Peter do to the people who were speaking in tongues? (He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

• Who is the Holy Spirit? (The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the trinity.)

• Who can receive the Holy Spirit? (The Holy Spirit is given to everyone who believes that Jesus died for their sins, and is experienced by believers.)

• Why does God give the Holy Spirit? (The Holy Spirit is a comforter given to encourage us, to give us power over sin, to convict us when we stray and to give us an inner witness that we are the children of God.)

Where 19 the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

The Gospel is clearly spoken by Peter in our passage today in Acts 10:39-43. Even while Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles, filled them and gave them the gift of tongues.

Clearly what the Apostle Paul wrote is true:

... it (the gospel) is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (Romans 1:16b-17)

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.