**Bible Study Questions: READ Acts 10–12 (NASB)**

***Memory Verses:*** *"In every nation the one who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him."* — Acts 10:35 (NASB)

These chapters highlight the major turning point in the early Church—the gospel being preached to the Gentiles, Peter’s obedience, persecution under Herod, and the unstoppable work of God.

**1. The Gospel Opens to the Gentiles *(Acts 10:1–33)***

*Cornelius, a Gentile centurion, receives a vision from God, and Peter is called to share the gospel beyond Jewish boundaries.*

1. **Who was Cornelius, and why is he described as “a devout man”? *(10:1-2)***
2. **What was the message of the angel to Cornelius in his vision?** *.* *(10:3–6)*
3. **What did Peter see in his vision, and how did he respond?** *(10:9–14)*
4. **What did God mean by saying, “What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy”?** *(10:15)*
5. **How did Peter connect his vision to Cornelius’ invitation?** *(10:19-23)*

**2. Peter’s Message & the Holy Spirit’s Confirmation *(Acts 10:34–48)***

*Peter preaches to Gentiles, who receive the Holy Spirit, proving God's acceptance of all who believe.*

1. **How does Peter summarize the gospel in Acts 10:34–43?**
2. **What happened while Peter was still speaking?** *(10:44-46)*
3. **Why were the Jewish believers amazed?** *(10:45)*
4. **What did Peter command after they received the Spirit?** *(10:48)*

**3. Defense, Discipleship, and Antioch’s Church Growth *(Acts 11:1–30)***

*Peter explains his actions, and the Church expands as Gentiles are discipled in Antioch.*

1. **How did the Jewish believers respond to Peter's actions, and how did he explain himself?** *(11:1-17)*
2. **What was their response after hearing Peter’s explanation?** *(11:18)*
3. **Who were the first people to preach to Gentiles in Antioch, and what was the result?** *(11:20-21)*
4. **How did Barnabas encourage the believers in Antioch?** *(11:23-26)*

**4. Persecution, Prayer, and God’s Power *(Acts 12:1–25)***

*Herod persecutes the Church, but God delivers Peter and judges Herod, showing His sovereignty.*

1. **What happened to James and Peter under Herod’s persecution?** *(12:1-5)*
2. **How was Peter miraculously delivered from prison?** *(12:6-11)*

**Reflect**

1. **Breaking Down Personal Prejudices:** *In Acts 10, Peter receives a vision that challenges his views on Gentiles, leading him to Cornelius. Are there individuals or groups you find difficult to accept or understand? How can Peter's experience guide you in addressing and overcoming these biases?*
2. **Responding to Criticism with Grace:** *Acts 11 describes Peter facing criticism from fellow believers for associating with Gentiles. Recall a time when you were questioned or criticized for your actions or beliefs. How did you handle the situation, and what did you learn from Peter's defense about addressing such challenges?*
3. **The Power of Collective Prayer:** *In Acts 12, the church earnestly prays for Peter's release from prison. Reflect on a situation where you or your community turned to collective prayer during a crisis. What was the outcome, and how did it impact your faith in the power of communal prayer?*
4. **Recognizing Divine Intervention:** *Peter's miraculous escape from prison in Acts 12 showcases God's intervention. Have you experienced moments where events unfolded in ways that seemed beyond coincidence? How do you interpret and respond to such occurrences in your spiritual journey?*
5. **Embracing the Inclusivity of the Gospel:** *The early church grappled with the inclusion of Gentiles, as seen in these chapters. How do you ensure that your faith community is welcoming to all, regardless of background or differences? Are there steps you can take to promote inclusivity in your personal faith practices?*