

Acts 10:17-11:18 God at work IN you!

I. Intro

Radical Extravagant Holy Spirit Empowered EVERYDAY FAITH working through Everyday people that is the book of Acts.

As we fight to connect with Him - hear His voice through His word - Obey Him as He prompts us to obey - what we are doing is we are making ourselves available to us used by God through our ordinary everyday lives.

That's the underlying message - God uses everyday ordinary people in their everyday lives to expand the Kingdom of God in power. That is you - that is me!

This is the invitation of the book of Acts: would you allow your faith to become more than an aspect of your life - would you make your relationship with God a defining aspect of your life.

MAIN IDEA: When we let God work within us, He empowers us to influence the people around us.

II. Recap

Gospel is spreading - Kingdom of God is Advancing! God is reaching those outside the nation of Israel - the Gentiles are coming to faith. God is working through the faith of everyday people - through everyday situations to reach those who are far from God.

ACTS 10: We get the privilege of seeing the work of the Holy Spirit almost in the perspective of a movie (God working in Cornelius sending for Peter - then while that is happening see Peter's vision where God is softening Peter's heart and calling Peter to new way of life) We pick up there: Peter is trying to discern what on earth God was trying to tell him and Cornelius has sent his men to go ask Peter to come speak to them - Just as God told him. These Gentile men come to the House Peter is staying and ask him to come with them.

III. Walkthrough text

Read 10:17-23 : Peter

- Time with God: Peter had this time with God and he doesn't quite understand what God is trying to teach him, trying to DO IN PETER.

- Peter is making room for God in his life & he is open to change in his life.

(Must make ourselves available for God to do something IN us - time with Him, prayer, His word then hard work of obeying or implementing what He says)

we see that in Peter. Available- Goes and prays and God shows up powerfully. Peter is scratching his head trying to discern what on earth that really means. How do I put this into practice. How is God calling me to a new way of living?

- Immediately Men appear to ask Peter to come on a journey with them to Cornelius. Uncomfortable - but this is based off what God is doing in Peter- Peter obeys. Not in perfect understanding - still perplexed - still confused - open to what God is doing in him and obey God's prompting.

Read 10:24-48 Cornelius' House

-Expectant: Cornelius was anticipating a move from God - Eagerly waiting to see and hear the word from God. So much so that he filled his house with friends and family so that they too could hear this Word from God. (When was the last time we were Expectant for the move of God in our lives?)

- Peter: This feels so far out of my comfort zone - this is something so new to me but God is teaching me to be here. But can you please tell me why do you come get me?

- Not some well crafted, premeditated speech - He didn't have time for that - rather Peter spoke of what He experienced. Jesus is Lord - We witnessed the miracles - They killed him on the cross - Rose from the dead and spent time with us - told us to go tell the world the message that Through faith in Jesus anyone who believes in Jesus will receive forgiveness of their sin!

- Has Peter is speaking the Holy Spirit is at work: not Peters words - Spirit shows up in power through Peters obedience to show up and be available. Everyone in the house experiences salvation and is filled with the Holy Spirit (similar to what Peter and the disciples experience). Baptized!

READ 11:1-3 & 15-18 Peter in Jerusalem

- Skeptical , God was doing something in me to show me How God was about to move - then God used me to speak to the Gentiles and the Holy Spirit showed up like He did for us.

- Who was I that I could stand in God's way?

IV. Observations

1. What is God trying to do in you that you are standing in the way?

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