

KIDTOWN GUIDE

1st-5th Grades

DATE: 2/28/21

SCRIPTURE: Acts 10

LESSON: Peter and Cornelius

1

INTRO

Food Rules! - To get our kids thinking in the right direction, we're going to start with some intro questions to prepare them for our lesson:

- Question #1: What are our family's rules about food? (Examples - You have to clear your plate, No talking with your mouth full, any specific diets or food restrictions your family follows, etc.)
- Question #2: Did you know there are people who have specific rules about what they eat? (Tell your kids about vegetarian diets or Kosher/Halal restrictions. Right now in the Lenten season many people only eat fish on Fridays. We can look for signs at fast food restaurants advertising fish!)
- Question #3: If you were in charge, what food rules would you follow?

Say - Today we're going to see Jesus talk to Peter about the food rules in his culture... but what Jesus really cares about is his heart toward people who are different. Jesus loves people regardless of their culture norms like food rules!

2

LESSON - PETER AND CORNELIUS

Watch the Gospel Project Bible video: [Peter and Cornelius](#)

Story Point #1: (Kids repeat!)

Peter saw certain foods as clean and other foods as unclean. (Kids repeat!)

In the Old Testament, God gave His people certain rules about what foods they could and couldn't eat. This was a good thing! Some of the rules were for their health (because they didn't have safe ways to prepare the food like we have now) and some of the rules were to set them apart as God's people. Peter followed these rules his whole life. The only problem is these rules (and others) affected the way he thought about people who didn't follow the rules like him...

Story Point #2: (Kids repeat!)

Peter saw certain people as clean and other people as unclean. (Kids repeat!)

Like many Jewish people, Peter had gotten the rules a little confused and started thinking that Jewish people were clean - and non-Jewish people (Gentiles) were unclean. God wanted His people to be set apart AND He wanted them to love people and help them know Him too. Sometimes God's people took being set apart too far and forgot to love people that were different from them or help them know God.

Story Point #3: (Kids repeat!)

God wanted to change how Peter saw people. (Kids repeat!)

Jesus came to bring Jews AND Gentiles back to God. God showed this to Peter with a dream and through some new friends. In the dream, Peter saw all kinds of animals he had never eaten before and God kept telling him to EAT! But the dream wasn't just about food. It had a larger message! God was showing Peter that specific rules aren't what make people clean or unclean! Jesus came to rescue everyone. God put Peter's new knowledge to work immediately by sending him to Cornelius and his friends, who were Gentiles. They believed and Peter baptized them in the name of Jesus!

Christ Connection! (Kids repeat!)

Jesus washes everyone clean who believes in Him. (kids repeat)

No matter where you come from or what you have done... no matter what rules you've followed or not followed... the Bible is clear. We all have sin that makes us unclean. And the great news of Jesus is that He washes all of us clean from our sin when we ask. In the kingdom of Heaven, He sees us all the same because we are made clean through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

RESPONSE



Sing: [Rejoice Be Glad](#) (Key Passage Song)
[Good Good Father](#)

Pray: Dear God, thank you for washing us clean. Help us to remember that there are no clean and unclean people in your Kingdom, everyone who believes in you is washed clean. Amen.

Discuss:

- What stood out to you from this story? *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- What did God show to Peter through a vision? *A sheet in which many animals, including unclean animals, were sitting; (Acts 10:11-12)*
- What did Peter's vision mean? *that God wanted the gospel to be preached to Gentiles - that there are no clean or unclean people either (Acts 10:28,34-36)*
- Why does God love all people? *Guide kids to remember that all people are made in God's image. Help them see that our value and dignity do not come from our actions, our appearance, or the talents we have. Our value is based on God's love for us and the fact that He has created each of us.*
- Why does God want us to love all people? *Guide kids to see that our love reflects His love. If we behave toward others as if we hate them or do not care about them, we communicate untrue things about God. Our love for people is evidence of our love for God.*
- How can we show with our actions that we love God and love people? *Guide kids to think practically about ways they can care for others. Suggest ways they can show kindness to help them see that seeking out ways to show love to people who are different from them is a great way to show that God does not show favoritism.*
- Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?
 - *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know but will try to find out.*
 - *If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us at kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com.*



BONUS ACTIVITIES

Coloring Sheet - [Printable Coloring Sheet](#) of Peter

Parent Share - Have you ever had to unlearn an incorrect religious rule like Peter did?

Dance Party! - Put on some of your favorite tunes and dance together to celebrate that Jesus is risen! You can use this [playlist](#) for your music!