

# The Gentiles Are Converted

August 28, 2016

Acts 11:1-18

God was drawing Cornelius. Cornelius feared God, gave generously, and prayed, but still needed Jesus.

*“Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?”*

**Acts 10:29**

Why am I here?

Ultimately, I am here for God’s glory!

Why are you here? Why do you do what you do? What is your motivation? Is it money, fame, position, title, recognition, out of routine or what’s expected? Why do you do it?

What is your purpose in the world?

Peter’s was to do God’s plan, he heard from the Lord and followed. Sure, he at times “strayed”, but he also refocused and adjusted to God’s plan

Did God put us on this earth to grow up, get a job, have a family, grow old and then die? Is that it?

We are to love Him and love others, that is our mission.

*Jesus said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”*

**Matthew 22:37-40**

What is your focus?

“We must be aware of thinking too much about our meals, our furniture, our houses, and all those things that concern the life of the body. We must strive to live like people whose first thoughts are about the immortal soul. We must endeavor to pass through the world like people who are not yet at home, and are not so troubled about the fare they meet with on the road and at the inn. Blessed are they who feel like pilgrims and strangers in this life, and whose best things are all to come”! ~ **J.C. Ryle**

What is your attitude?

*Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.*

**Philippians 2:5**

Where is your heart?

**Focus → Attitude → Heart**

Knowing and walking with God daily will produce a right focus!

Peter was ready and he didn't disobey. What if he had said I can't go now "I am too busy, I have my job I need to do, I need to see over my family, I need to take care of some business." What if Peter's focus or attitude was out of line? Nothing held Peter back from doing what was best, not what was good.

Cornelius was ready, he just needed someone to share Christ with them.

*"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

**Matthew 5:14-16**

People that we work with, go to school with, love with and spend time with need us to shine the light. We need to shine our light at home, in our community and around the world.

We need to be:

**Aware → Focus**

**Able → Attitude**

**Available → Heart**

The commands of Christ are not upon the legal tenor of "this do and live," but upon the gospel system of "live and do this." ~ **Spurgeon**

We must put our excuses aside, however great they may be, and get our attitude and focus right so we can effectively shine the light.

#### **Prayer Focus:**

- My direct focus will be on God and on the things of God.
- That I would not allow the things of this world or things that get me off focus to garner my attention.
- That I would be ready and available to share Christ with others after all it is God's Will.