

Sunday, January 12, 2025

## ACTS – A Church Sent The Sender

## **Read/Reflect**

- 1. Read Acts 10:1-23a. List all the characters involved in this passage. Who tends to rise to the forefront of your mind? Is that the same as the main character in this episode?
- 2. For the sake of "just wondering": compare this story to the story in Luke 7:1-10. Do you think the centurion in Luke 7 could have been Cornelius?
- 3. Given who Cornelius was (Roman centurion) what do you think went through Cornelius' mind as he received the instruction to send for a rabble-rouser under Roman occupation? What went through Peter's mind as he received the Roman guests, recognizing that verse 23 would have been stunning, even alarming to any reader.

## Explore

- 4. Cornelius' life-style is assessed as a "memorial offering to God" (vs.4). What does your "memorial offering to God" look like?
- 5. Like Peter, what religious values and traditions have hindered you from reaching out to people different than you.
- 6. What kinds of divisions occur today that we could address as people following the good news of the gospel?
- 7. What are the demands of the gospel that ought to shape a response to the divisions we live with? For example, see Matthew 5, Philippians 2, Galatians 5.

## Pray

• Pray for peace and reconciliation in the divisions that you've identified in question 6 above.