

**Peter Preaches to Cornelius**  
*(the Good News about Jesus is for everyone)*  
**Acts 10:1-48**

Peter had some wrong ideas about who should hear the Good News and God had to teach him to change his ideas. Most of the people in God's growing family were Jews. Jesus was a Jew and so were the disciples. So, for a while, the disciples thought the Good News about Jesus was only for the Jews. But Peter learned that God loves everyone – even people who are not Jews. That is wonderful, because you and I are not Jews. But the Bible tells us that God loves us and that Jesus died for us too.

Our story is also about a man named Cornelius. He loved God but he was not a Jew. He was a Roman soldier. One day while Cornelius was praying, God sent an angel to him. The angel told Cornelius that God heard his prayers. The angel told Cornelius to send for a man named Peter in the city of Joppa. Right away, Cornelius sent three men to Joppa to invite Peter to come to visit him. The three men arrived in Joppa the very next day.

When they arrived, Peter was up on the roof of the house where he was staying praying to God. While Peter was praying, God showed him a strange dream: Peter saw a really big sheet filled with all kinds of animals in it – four footed animals, crawling animals and birds. God told Peter, "You can eat the meat from any of these animals for your lunch." Well Peter knew that Jews were not allowed to eat some kinds of meat, so Peter said to God, "No way. I never eat any meat that I am not supposed to eat."

But God said to Peter, "I have made all kinds of meat and it is all good! You may eat any meat that I have made." God showed Peter this same strange dream again! Peter wondered why God was showing him something so unusual. Peter kept on praying and thinking about the strange dream. God showed Peter the dream again! Now Peter was really wondering what God was saying to him. Then God said, "There are three men at the door of your house. Go with them."

Peter went downstairs to meet the men who were waiting for him. They were Gentiles, not Jews! Peter wondered if he should go with them and then He remembered the strange dream: God was trying to show Peter that He made everyone, and He loves everyone. The Good News about Jesus is for all people everywhere! So, Peter went with the men to Cornelius' house.

Cornelius' house was full of people and they were not Jews. Peter told them, "I know now that God loves EVERY person. He sent Jesus to die for the sins of every person! And He has sent me to tell you the Good News about Jesus." The people in Cornelius house believed the things Peter said and became followers of Jesus. They knew they were going to heaven to be with Jesus.

Peter learned an important lesson! God's love is for everyone, not just the people who are like us. Just as God loves everyone, He wants us to love and accept everyone and tell them the Good News about Jesus!

**Bible Verse:**

Go home to your friends and tell  
them what great things the Lord  
has done for you. Mark 5:19 (NKJ)

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**Who Should Hear The Good News**

Materials:     \*master of different people (one set per child)  
                  \*Master of open hands – *on colored paper if you wish*  
                  \*Markers                                 \*Glue

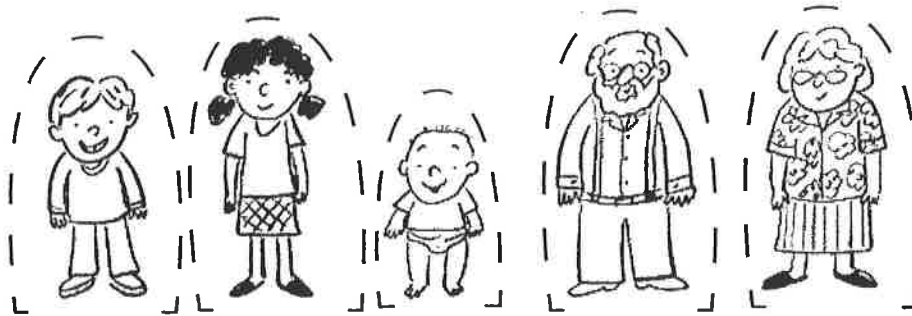
Print one set of the people per child. If your children are cutting well, let them cut them out. If not, have them cut out beforehand. Give each child a copy of the open hands. The children will color the people with markers and glue them onto their open hands. Remind the children of their story! God wants everyone to hear about Jesus! We can tell everyone about Him.

**Everyone in Every Country Should Hear the Good News of Jesus**

Materials:     \*Master of globe and “ship” (one per child on regular paper)  
                  \*One sheet of construction paper per child  
                  *(you can cut off a couple of inches if you wish)*  
                  \*Glue sticks     \*Brass paper fasteners   \*Markers or crayons

Cut out the circle globes and the ship figures. The children will color their globes and ships. Help the children glue the globe onto the construction paper and then attach the ship with a brass paper fastener. Show them how to move the boat around the world. Remind them that everyone all over the world is meant to hear how much Jesus loves them and that He wants them to follow Him.







Who should hear the *Good News of Jesus*? **EVERYONE!**

