



# Peter Visits Cornelius

Lesson Aim: To know God loves everyone the same.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The Spirit Who Changes Us

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Acts 10:9-12, 15, 22-35

**What He Has Done:** God showed He does not have favorites.

## THE WAY

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." 2 Corinthians 5:17a

Unit 2: The Promise of Change			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
6	God Changes Saul's Heart, Acts 9:1-7	Jesus spoke to Saul from heaven.	To know God can change our hearts to want to be more like Jesus.
7	Saul Escapes from Damascus, Acts 9:19b-25, 28	God protected Saul as a witness for His kingdom.	To keep telling others about Jesus.
8	Peter and Tabitha (Dorcas), Acts 9:36-42	God helped Peter bring Tabitha back to life.	To know we can help others.
9	Peter Visits Cornelius, Acts 10:9-12, 15, 22-35	God showed He does not have favorites.	To know God loves everyone the same.
10	Peter Escapes from Prison, Acts 12:1-19	God sent His angel to rescue Peter from prison.	To know praying together is important.
11	Barnabas Encourages Saul, Acts 9:26-28; 11:22-26	God sent Barnabas to help Saul.	To be a true friend to others.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Revelation 7:9-17. Please join us in praying, "Thank you, Lord, for having no favorites. Forgive us for underestimating Your power to cleanse us. Help the children understand Your forgiveness for all who believe. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**God loves everyone the same.** What an important lesson for children (and adults!) to learn. God made us each different and He loves us just the way we are. This week, let the children see how they are each special to God by showing them they are each special to you.



# THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Peter's Dream	Coloring pages of Peter's dream, crayons, animal sticker
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Animals of Every Kind	Play-dough, animal cookie cutters, play-dough tools, handkerchief or other small cloth
		<b>Puppet Center:</b> God Made Us All	3 or more animal puppets, 2 or more people puppets
		<b>Dramatic Play Center:</b> Peter's Visit	Dishes, cups, napkins, play food, wash cloths or other small cloths
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "A New Creation" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Can Do Everything" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "We Love" <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "Jesus Loves Me"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 2, Lesson 9
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Acts 10:9-12, 15, 22-35	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 10:24b Visuals: Picture of the Bible story, 3 different stuffed animals
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Cornelius' House	Sturdy white paper, glue or tape, crayons or markers, optional: magazines
		<b>Game:</b> God's Family	None
		<b>Game:</b> God Loves Everyone	None
		<b>Snack:</b> Love Snack	Heart-shaped or red snack
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 2, Lesson 9
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Acts 10:9-12, 15, 22-35	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> New Hearts	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> "New Creation" Ball Toss	Soft ball
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about God's message being for all people

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The Spirit who changes us

# THE WELCOME

## WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a heart. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a heart help you remember that God loves everyone the same!**

**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

## COLORING CENTER: PETER'S DREAM

### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Peter's dream, crayons, animal sticker

### **DO**

Children color their picture and add an animal sticker as they talk about today's story.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**In our Bible story today, Jesus' friend Peter has a dream about animals coming down from above in a sheet. Can you show me the sheet in the picture? The sheet was full of all kinds of different animals. Can you name the animals you see in the picture?** (Children respond.) Give each child an animal sticker to add to their coloring page.

## PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: ANIMALS OF EVERY KIND

### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, animal cookie cutters, play-dough tools, handkerchief or other small cloth

### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while discussing today's story. Encourage children to make animals with the play-dough and place them on the handkerchief.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**Our Bible story today is about Peter's dream. In it, animals of every kind were coming down from above in a sheet. That may sound like a strange dream, but Peter knew God was speaking to him through the dream. God wanted Peter to know that, like the animals, every person is different but God loves us all the same. Let's make some animals with the play-dough and place them on this cloth.**

Talk about how the children are the same in some ways and different in others, such as hair or eye color, things they like, favorite activities, etc. Talk about how God made each of them special and He loves them just the way they are.

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## **PUPPET CENTER: GOD MADE US ALL**

### **SUPPLIES**

3 or more animal puppets, 2 or more people puppets

### **DO**

Allow children to play with the puppets while discussing the talking points below.

### **TALK ABOUT**

- Ask the children to name each animal. What sounds do they make? How are they different (what they look like, where they live, what they eat, etc.)? How are they the same?
- God made all the animals. He made each one special.
- God made people. He made them each different but He loves us all the same.

## **DRAMATIC PLAY CENTER: PETER'S VISIT**

### **SUPPLIES**

Dishes, cups, napkins, play food, wash cloths or other small cloths

### **DO**

Teacher or a helper asks children to complete specific chores to help each other.

### **TALK ABOUT**

**In today's Bible story, an angel told a man named Cornelius to invite Peter to his house. Cornelius knew it would be a special visit so he invited all his family and friends to be there. Do you ever have people come to visit you at your house?** (Children respond.) **What do you have to do to get ready?** (Clean, prepare food, etc.) **Let's pretend Peter is coming to our classroom and let's get ready for his special visit.** Assign tasks to the children, such as setting the table, preparing the food, and using the cloths to clean the table or other surfaces in the classroom.

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## **PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

**"If anyone  
is in Christ,**

(one) Index finger is held upright.

(Christ) Make "C" shape with hand. Move "C" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

**he is a new  
creation."**

(new) Back of right hand makes a scooping motion across palm of left hand.

Both fists make a twisting motion as they bounce on top of each other.

**2 Corinthians 5:17a**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The Spirit who changes us

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**It's Praise Time! Before we begin, let's talk to God.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for making each of us special in our own way. Thank You for loving us as we are. Amen.**



**God loves us just the way we are. Let's thank Him for His goodness and love.** Sing: "Give Thanks to the Lord."

**We show we love God when we praise Him. We can also show our love by giving an offering. These offerings are used to help people know God loves them.** Sing: "How Wide?" while collecting the offering.



**Today, we will hear a story about Peter and Cornelius. Let's see if Delbert and Lello have heard the story of Peter's visit to Cornelius' house.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 2, Lesson 9.



**God will help us grow to be more and more like Jesus every day. 2 Corinthians 5:17a says "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." Let's say our verse together.** Say verse together two or three times.

**"If anyone  
is in Christ,**

(one) Index finger is held upright.

(Christ) Make "C" shape with hand. Move "C" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

**he is a new**

(new) Back of right hand makes a scooping motion across palm of left hand.

**creation."**

Both fists make a twisting motion as they bounce on top of each other.

**2 Corinthians 5:17a**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**When Peter visited Cornelius, he told everyone there that God loved them all. When they believed in Jesus, Peter knew their hearts were changed. They had a brand new start!** Sing Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "A New Creation."



Peter visits Cornelius

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 10:24b, picture of the Bible story, 3 different stuffed animals

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Yawn and stretch. Hug the stuffed animals to you. **I brought some of my animals friends with me today. Let's see if you can tell me what kind of animals they are.** Hold up each animal and have the children name what it is. **Do you have stuffed animals, dolls, or toys you sleep with at night?** (Children respond.) **What is your favorite?** Let several of the children tell you their favorite stuffed animal, doll, or toy. **Each one of you named a different favorite toy, didn't you?** (Yes.)

**Are you each different?** (Children respond.) Point out differences in gender, hair color, eye color, etc. **God made each of us different. Does God like any of us better than others?** (No.) **We are each special to God and He loves each of us the same. Jesus' friend Peter had a dream about that. Let's listen.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Acts 10:24b.



### **WATCH THE WORD: ACTS 10:9-12, 15, 22-35**

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **God gave Peter a dream one day,**
- **Of a sheet coming down from above.**
- **This sheet full of animals of every kind**
- **Showed Peter about God's love.**
  
- **An angel told Cornelius,**
- **"Ask Peter to visit today."**
- **Cornelius called his family and friends,**
- **To hear what Peter would say.**
  
- **Peter told them "God loves you.**
- **You can follow Jesus, too.**
- **For God loves everyone the same,**
- **Just as He loves me and you!"**

**Just as God made the animals to be different, God made people to be different, too, but He loves us all the same. Who loves you? (God.) Who loves everyone? (God.)**



God loves everyone

# THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

## **CRAFT: CORNELIUS' HOUSE**

**Purpose:** To remind the children that Peter visited Cornelius.

**Supplies:** Sturdy white paper, glue or tape, crayons or markers, optional: magazines

**Prepare:** From sturdy white paper, draw and cut out a picture of Peter walking. On a standard-size sheet of paper, draw a large house with two windows and a door. Cut out the windows. Cut the top, bottom, and right side of the door and crease it open on the left side. At the top of the page, print:

**Peter Visited Cornelius  
Acts 10:9-12, 15, 22-35**

**Optional:** Instead of drawing faces in the door and windows, children may cut out and attach pictures of faces from magazines.

### **Directions:**

1. Color Peter. Glue or tape him to the front of the house.
2. Glue or tape the house over another piece of standard-size sturdy white paper.
3. Draw people's smiling faces looking out of the door and windows.

### **Craft Discussion:**

- **At first, Peter thought God had favorite people and loved some more than others. Then in a dream, God showed Peter He loves everyone the same.**
- **Who told Cornelius to invite Peter to his house?** (An angel.)
- **Did Peter go to Cornelius' house?** (Yes.)
- **Who else did Cornelius invite to his house?** (His family and friends.)
- **They all wanted to hear about God. What do you think Peter might have told them about God's love?** (God loves everyone and God loves you!)

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: GOD'S FAMILY**

**Purpose:** Children will remember God has no favorites.

**Supplies:** None

**Just as all the animals in Peter's dream were different, we look different, too. What are some ways you look different from the person sitting next to you?** (Hair length, height, skin, hair or eye color, etc.) **Even though we all look different, God loves every one of us!**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children stand around the outside "huddle" around you in the center of the room.
2. **If you are wearing pink, take a step backwards.**
3. **If you have black hair, take a step backwards.**
4. **If you love Jesus, take a step backwards.**
5. **We are all part of God's big family!** Lead the children in running back to the center for a group hug. Tell the children "God loves you!"
6. Play two or three times using other characteristics such as clothing items or colors, hair color, eye color, things they like, etc.

## **GAME: GOD LOVES EVERYONE**

**Purpose:** Children will remember God loves everyone and God loves them.

**Supplies:** None

### **Directions:**

1. Teacher and a helper create an arch by joining both hands together and lifting their arms up.
2. Line up the other children so they can walk under the arch.
3. Sing the first verse as the line of children walk under the arch and back around, creating a circle of children consistently walking under the arch.  
**God Loves Everyone** (Tune: London Bridge)  
**We know God loves everyone,**  
**Everyone, everyone.**  
**We know God loves everyone.**  
**The Bible tell us so.**
4. Sing the next verse as the line of children walk under the arch. As each child walks under the arch add their name to the song below.  
**We know God loves** child's name, child's name, **and** child's name,  
Child's name **and** child's name, child's name **and** child's name.  
**We know God loves** child's name, child's name, **and** child's name.  
**The Bible tells us so.**
5. If there is time now or during GOT TIME?, sing the verse below. This time, drop your hands at the end of the verse to capture the child walking under the arch. Say the name of the child captured. Play as often as you like or until each child has been captured.  
**We know God loves everyone,**  
**Everyone, everyone.**  
**We know God loves everyone.**  
**God loves** child's name.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: LOVE SNACK**

**Purpose:** Children will eat a heart-shaped snack to remind them that God loves everyone.

**Snack Suggestion:** Heart-shaped or red snack

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,  
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Peter dreamed about many different animals all together on one sheet. Do you have a favorite animal?** (Children respond.)
  - **Peter learned God does not have favorite people. God loves us all the same.**
  - **Who does God love?** (You, me, everyone!)
  - **Does God love some of us more than others?** (No. God loves us all the same.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"If anyone is in Christ,</b>	(one) Index finger is held upright. (Christ) Make "C" shape with hand. Move "C" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.
<b>he is a new creation."</b>	(new) Back of right hand makes a scooping motion across palm of left hand. Both fists make a twisting motion as they bounce on top of each other.
<b>2 Corinthians 5:17a</b>	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: ACTS 10:9-12, 15, 22-35**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **God gave Peter a dream one day,** (Lay cheek on folded hands, as if dreaming.)
- **Of a sheet coming down from above.** (Point from heaven to floor.)
- **This sheet full of animals of every kind** (Spread arms wide.)
- **Showed Peter about God's love.** (Place hands on heart.)
  
- **An angel told Cornelius,** (Point to heaven.)
- **"Ask Peter to visit today."** (Wave index finger, as if giving an instruction.)
- **Cornelius called his family and friends,** (Cup hands around mouth, as if shouting.)
- **To hear what Peter would say.** (Cup hand around ear, as if listening.)
  
- **Peter told them "God loves you.** (Hug self.)
- **You can follow Jesus, too.** (Make beckoning motion.)
- **For God loves everyone the same,** (Place hands on heart.)
- **Just as He loves me and you!"** (Point to self and others.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."

2 Corinthians 5:17a

### **GAME: NEW HEARTS**

**Purpose:** Children learn the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:**

1. Seat children in a circle.
2. First child stands in the center of the circle with both hands covering his or her own heart.
3. All the children repeat the Bible Memory Verse after you, replacing the word "anyone" with the name of the child standing in the center of the circle.
  - If child's name is in Christ,** (Children repeat.)
  - He/She is a new creation.** (Children repeat)
  - The old has gone.** (Children repeat.)
  - The new has come! Hooray!** (Children repeat.)
4. Child in the center removes his or her hands to uncover his or her heart.
5. Play until each child has a turn.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: "NEW CREATION" BALL TOSS**

**Purpose:** Children learn the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Soft ball

**Our Bible Memory Verse says, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." That means if you have Jesus in your heart, He will help you grow to be more like Him.**

**Teacher Tip:** Two and three-year-olds are still learning motor skills such as tossing and catching. You may choose to have the children sit in a circle and roll the ball depending on the age and skill level of the children.

### **Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Toss the ball to the first child.
3. While child holds ball, child recites the Bible Memory Verse: **"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation."** If a child is uncomfortable saying the verse alone, have the class say it together.
4. Child tosses the ball back to you or to another child.
5. Repeat until each child has at least one turn.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about God's message being for all people.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 2, Lesson 9: Peter Visits Cornelius

**PONDER!** Peter shared his dream with Cornelius (Acts 10:9-12, 15, 22-35). God made each of us special in our own way. Does God love us all the same? (Yes!)

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for loving everyone in the world. Help us to love everyone, too. Amen."

**PLAY!** Cut a heart from red paper. Sit in a circle. Say, "God loves name of person in the circle." Give the heart to that person. That person says the same words to someone else and gives him or her the heart. Play until each person has a turn. End with a big group hug!

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"If anyone  
is in Christ,**

**he is a new  
creation."**

**2 Corinthians 5:17a**

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(new) Back of right hand makes a scooping motion across palm of left hand. Both fists make a twisting motion as they bounce on top of each other.

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