

Transition:

Peter is confronted with a vision from the Lord, and he doubts whether it is real or true. Jews had thought about and treated Gentiles in one way for thousands of years! Nevertheless, Peter must be willing to put aside what he has always known, or accustomed to, in order to accomplish what God has planned.

Tell the story:

Tell the story (with passion!) Do the best you can, don't stop and teach, try not to make points, just tell the story. Perhaps leave some parts out or make a mistake, just to see if your group catches it!

Rebuild the story:

Chronologically rebuild the story by asking questions. Have the group look for what was added or left out by looking in their Bibles and going back over the story. Then have someone else tell the story the best they can – just like you modeled the first time.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the significance of this story as it relates to clean and unclean?
2. Was Peter under a spell when he was praying on the rooftop? Is this how God always speaks to people?
3. Scripture says Peter doubted within himself - is that okay? What if you do what God asks? Why did he doubt it?

Fundamental:

Lordship - Words like "lord," "master," and "king" have little to no meaning in our western context. Yet the scriptures are full of these descriptors for Jesus of Nazareth. America is swamped with the idea and message that Jesus is a Savior. It's proclaimed from every steeple, seminary, and pulpit, and yet the great necessary and complementary truth of his lordship is thundered by a few—by a remnant. May we come to learn that he is both Lord and Savior and be reminded of the great truth that, if He's not your Lord, He cannot be your Savior. You can't invite him to be one and not the other; they are one and the same. The Lord said these sober and powerful words: "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" — Jesus, Luke 6:46

1. What does the term 'Lord' mean?
2. How do we know He is Lord of our life? How do we know if He is not?
3. Can we obey everything Jesus asks us to do? Why or why not?

Homework/Challenge:

1. Have a practical talk about what people are/are not giving to the Lord. Ask them to do it.
2. Please read Acts 11 in preparation for next week.

Discipleship Tip:

Delayed obedience is disobedience. If God is asking us to do something, do it right away.

Prayer:

Pray for clean consciences and hearts to obey the first time.