



## Discussion Guide



Sermon Title: "Christ Is Central"

Date: January 7, 2018

### OPENING DISCUSSION

1. What manifestations of the Holy Spirit do you see in Acts that most interests you?
2. What manifestations of the Holy Spirit do you see in Acts that you have the most questions about?
3. 🕒 What do you think the reaction would be of the congregation if, in the middle of the sermon; everyone started praising God and speaking in tongues?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Believers can often have extreme doctrinal views of the Holy Spirit...some say everyone should speak in tongues and expect prophecy or miracles at every service. Others say the Holy Spirit doesn't work in those ways now since we have the New Testament completed.
  - Discuss any experiences you've witnessed where the Holy Spirit seemed to be overly-emphasized.
  - Discuss any experiences you've witnessed where people have been closed off to the possibility of the Holy Spirit manifesting in unique ways.
2. 🕒 How do you think Peter's opening words ("God does not show partiality") impacted the Gentiles?
3. What does it mean to you that "God does not show partiality" as it relates to who he might use for his purposes?
4. How do you think the modern church might have made Peter into a "Christian Celebrity?"
5. 🕒 What are things people tend to trust for salvation instead of Jesus?
6. 🕒 If we aren't saved by our obedience, what part does obedience play in the believer's life?
7. What should be the long-term result of the Spirit's outpouring?
8. 🕒 In what areas of your life do you need to make Christ a more central part?
9. What specific item of obedience is God asking of you right now?

### FURTHER REFLECTION

1. What does it mean to you to sense the responsibility to testify that Jesus is the "One" (Acts 10:42)?
2. God had "anointed, raised, and appointed Jesus." What parallels can you find that God has done the same for the believer (in other words, how has God anointed you, raised you up, and appointed you)?

☞ Feel free to use the questions marked with a "🕒" if your time is limited ☞

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**NOTES:**

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCES** (NASB unless otherwise noted)

**Main Texts**

**📖 Acts 10:34-48**

34 Opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him. 36 The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all)— 37 you yourselves know the thing which took place throughout all Judea, starting from Galilee, after the baptism which John proclaimed. 38 You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. 39 We are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross. 40 God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible, 41 not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand by God, that is, to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. 42 And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. 43 Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins." 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, 47 "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?" 48 And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

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