

The story of Peter and Cornelius in Acts 10 and 11 marks an important moment in the early church, where long-standing Jewish traditions were challenged by a new movement of the Holy Spirit.

In a time when Jews and Gentiles did not associate with each other, Cornelius who was a devout Gentile, had a vision instructing him to send for Peter – who was a Jew. So, Cornelius sent for Peter.

Meanwhile, at the same time Peter had a vision in which God told him not to call anything impure that He had made clean.

When the men from Cornelius arrived, Peter obeyed the Spirit's prompting and went with them, bringing with him a group of Jewish believers.

At Cornelius's house, Peter preached about Jesus, and as he did, the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles, just as it had on the Jewish believers.

This shocked Peter and those who were with him, because it showed that God's salvation was for all people, not just the Jews.

Then in Acts 11, Peter was criticized by the church in Jerusalem for associating with Gentiles. But, after hearing the story of what happened, they acknowledged that God was indeed offering salvation to the Gentiles.

This moment opened the door for the Gospel to reach beyond Jewish boundaries.

The Apostle Paul later affirmed this in Galatians 3:26–28, writing that all are one in Christ - Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female.

This story teaches us about the importance of being open to the Spirit's leading, even when our traditions are challenged.