

CENTURION FAITH - ONE HUNDRED PERCENT

How To Neighbor – Part 5

September 20, 2026

Luke 10:27 (NIV) *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, Love your neighbor as yourself.”*

**Jesus didn't say WHO to neighbor.
He only showed us HOW to neighbor.**

Mark 15:37-39 (NIV) *“With a loud cry, Jesus breathed His last. ³⁸ The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹ And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how He died, he said, ‘Surely this Man was the Son of God!’”*

**This is a Gentile Centurion who perceives
the true identity of Jesus.**

A Centurion is a Roman Soldier in charge of one hundred men.

Cornelius and Peter Receive Simultaneous Visions

Acts 10:1-3 (NIV) *“At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. ² He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.*

³ One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, ‘Cornelius!’”

Acts 10:11-12 (NIV) *“He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. ¹² It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds.”*

Acts 10:15 (NIV) *“The voice spoke to him a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’”*

Jewish Dietary Laws: Leviticus 11:1-47 & Deuteronomy 14:3-20

Acts 10:19-20 (NIV) *“While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, ‘Simon, three men are looking for you. ²⁰ So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.’”*

Acts 10:28a (NIV) *“He said to them: ‘You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile.’”*

athemitos: a breach of tradition

Acts 10:28b (NIV) *“But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean.”*

Acts 10:34-35 (NIV) *"Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts from every nation the one who fears Him and does what is right.'"*

Acts 10:44 (NIV) *"While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message."*

Acts 10:47-48 (NIV) *"Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. **They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.**' ⁴⁸ So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days."*

Peter's continual presence in a Gentile home signals that the traditional barriers are coming down.

Peter Explains His Actions

Acts 11:1-3 (NIV) *"The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him ³ and said, 'You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.'"*

Acts 11:15-17 (NIV) *"As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as He had come on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ So if God gave them the same gift He gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, **who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?**"*

koluo:

hinder, prevent, obstruct, block, deny, withhold, oppose, forbid, stand in the way, interfere, stop, object, withstand, argue, forbid, go against

Philip and the Eunuch

Acts 8:36 (NIV) *"As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can **stand in the way** of my being baptized?'"*

Peter at the house of the Gentile Centurion Cornelius

Acts 10:47 (NIV) *"Surely no one can **stand in the way** of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."*

Peter and the Jews in Jerusalem

Acts 11:17 (NIV) *"So if God gave them the same gift He gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could **stand in God's way?**"*

All of this is the work of the Holy Spirit.