



**Characters:** Narrator, Angel, Cornelius, Peter, 2 Servants, 1 Soldier and Voice.

**Narrator:** There was a man in Caesarea named Cornelius, who was a centurion in what was known as “the Italian Regiment.” He was a God-fearing man. He always helped the needy and prayed regularly. One day, an angel appeared to him and said:

**Angel:** Cornelius!

**Cornelius:** (looking at him fearfully) What do you want, Lord?

**Angel:** We know that you pray and give to the poor. Send some men to the city of Joppa to bring back a man named Simon, who is called Peter, to come stay at your house. Peter is in the house of his friend, also called Simon, a tanner. His house is by the sea. Peter will help you and answer many of your questions. He will tell you what you should do.

**Narrator:** Cornelius didn’t wait. He obeyed, and sent two servants and a soldier to Joppa. The next day, while they were on their way to Joppa, Peter went up to the roof to pray. Peter’s stomach began to make noises, he was very hungry. Without a doubt, the lady of the house was cooking and Peter smelled the aroma of the food. While he was waiting for his meal, Peter had a vision. He saw the sky open, and something like a large sheet was being let down to earth by its four corners. Inside the sheet there were all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. Peter had no idea what this all meant. Then he heard a voice say:

**Voice:** Get up, Peter, kill and eat.

**Peter:** Lord, no; how can you ask me to do something like that! I’ve never eaten anything unclean or impure!

**Voice:** Look Peter, listen carefully, don’t call anything impure that God has made clean.

**Narrator:** This happened three times; and immediately the

sheet was taken back to heaven.

While Peter was wondering about the vision, the men who had been sent by Cornelius arrived at the door and asked for Peter.

While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Simon, three men are looking for you. So get up and go downstairs. Don’t hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.” Peter went down from the roof and went to the door to see who was looking for him.

**Peter:** Hi, I’m Peter. Why are you looking for me? What can I do for you?

**Servants and Soldier:** Cornelius, the centurion, is a man who fears God. He told us that he received instructions from an angel. He wants you to come to his house so he can hear what you have to say.

**Narrator:** Peter was very kind and hosted them at his friend’s house; they ate together and talked that afternoon. They rested and the next day they got up, had breakfast and left for the home of Cornelius. But the interesting thing is that Peter was not alone; he was accompanied by some of the Jewish believers from Joppa. No doubt everyone was curious to know why Cornelius, a Gentile, had sent for Peter! When they arrived, their eyes had a look of surprise. Cornelius was waiting for them along with his close friends and relatives. When Peter arrived, Cornelius came out to meet him and knelt at his feet. Peter didn’t want Cornelius to worship him.

**Peter:** Stand up, Cornelius. I’m only a man myself ... You well know that is against our law for a Jew to visit a gentile. But God showed me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean. That’s why, when you asked me to come, I came without objection. So here I am! How can I help you?

