



Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

5th March 2023

The Poon Brothers Serving God at Worship



The Poon brothers are the youngest members at the Household of Faith. Pictured below are Philemon, Paul and Peter. They are regular at Care teams and worship, and are passionate in serving God at worship.

1. Scripture reading

Like most men who are initiated into the "men to serve" crew at worship, they started with reading God's word in public. It took a while for them to gain confidence, standing before the public. All three are doing better, with each passing week.

2. Song leading

Not every man is capable of songleading. The Poon brothers had some music lessons and do a commendable job in this area.

When the pandemic hit Singapore, we were not able to meet publicly, so we started live streaming. Even then, the worship team was severely limited to a handful. It was during these two years that Paul became the regular songleader for HoF.

Paul is now a polished songleader, the best at the Household of Faith. Recently as we started to introduce new songs each month, Paul handled each one with great competence.

Philemon and Peter are now assigned a few songs at each worship. They prepared hard and give of their best. Philemon texts me for the songs he has to lead two weeks in advance when he is assigned to lead.

3. Leading in Prayer

While most of us would accept a young person reading scriptures or leading songs,



some may question using members younger than most of the congregation to lead in prayers.

This is where the apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Timothy 4:12 not to let any man "despise your youth; but be an example to those who believe, in word, in your way of life, in love, in spirit, in faith, and in purity".

At the Youth Care team, we not only teach how to lead songs, but prayers as well. The Poon brothers are assigned each to lead prayers in worship once a month. Paul is assigned to lead both the opening and closing prayers while Philemon and Peter are assigned the closing prayer.

We thank God for the Poon brothers and the wonderful way their parents have guided them in their faith.

Weekly In-person Worship



Welcome to the Household of Faith
5th March 2023



Bible Christians: Cornelius



Introduction

When we think of Bible Christians, we think of Jews or Greeks.

Acts 6:1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.

Very few would think of Romans as Bible Christians





Introduction

Matthew 8:8 - *The centurion answered, "Lord, I'm not worthy for you to come under my roof. Just say the word, and my servant will be healed."*

Luke 23:47 *When the centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous man."*

Acts 10:22 *They said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous man and one who fears God, and well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews, was directed by a holy angel to invite you to his house, and to listen to what you say."*



Introduction

Highest rank for an ordinary soldier to attain – similar to company commander

In charge of training and welfare of 80-100 men

Position of prestige and honour

Received substantial pension and regarded with honour

They were feared and hated by the Jews

The 2 centurions mentioned in the Bible were men of financial means who contributed to their communities





Introduction

Introduction to Cornelius

Acts 10:22-26 *They said, "Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous man and one who fears God, and well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews, was directed by a holy angel to invite you to his house, and to listen to what you say."*

So he called them in and lodged them. On the next day Peter arose and went out with them, and some of the brothers from Joppa accompanied him.

On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends.

When it happened that Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up! I myself am also a man."



Introduction

Introduction to Cornelius

Acts 10:27-31 *As he talked with him, he went in and found many gathered together.*

He said to them, "You yourselves know how it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to join himself or come to one of another nation, but God has shown me that I shouldn't call any man unholy or unclean.

Therefore also I came without complaint when I was sent for. I ask therefore, why did you send for me?"

Cornelius said, "Four days ago, I was fasting until this hour, and at the ninth hour, I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your gifts to the needy are remembered in the sight of God.



Introduction

Introduction to Cornelius

Acts 10:32-48 *Peter opened his mouth and said, "Truly I perceive that God doesn't show favoritism; but in every nation he who fears him*

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those who heard the word. They of the circumcision who believed were amazed, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was also poured out on the Gentiles.

For they heard them speaking in other languages and magnifying God. Then Peter answered, "Can any man forbid the water, that these who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we should not be baptized?" He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay some days.



Introduction

Introduction to Cornelius

A Roman Centurion

A righteous man

A religious man – a Jewish proselyte

One who feared God

Well spoken of by all the nation of the Jews

Prayers were heard by God

His gifts to the needy were remembered in the sight of God.



Introduction
Cornelius

1. God is Impartial

Acts 10:9-17 *Now on the next day as they were on their journey, and got close to the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray at about noon. He became hungry and desired to eat, but while they were preparing, he fell into a trance.*

He saw heaven opened and a certain container descending to him, like a great sheet let down by four corners on the earth, in which were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and birds of the sky.

A voice came to him, "Rise, Peter, kill and eat!" But Peter said, "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."



Introduction
Cornelius

1. God is Impartial

Acts 10:9-17 *A voice came to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed, you must not call unclean."*

This was done three times, and immediately the vessel was received up into heaven.

Acts 10:27-31 *Peter said to them, "You yourselves know how it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to join himself or come to one of another nation, but God has shown me that I shouldn't call any man unholy or unclean.*

Romans 2:10-11 *But glory and honor and peace to every man who works good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. **For there is no partiality with God.***



Introduction
Cornelius
1 God is No Impartial

2. God Observes Our Deeds

Proverbs 15:3
The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Watching the evil and the good.

Acts 10:30-31 *Cornelius said, "Four days ago, I was fasting until this hour, and at the ninth hour, I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer is heard, and your gifts to the needy are remembered in the sight of God.*

Matthew 10:42 *Whoever gives one of these little ones just a cup of cold water to drink in the name of a disciple, most assuredly I tell you he will in no way lose his reward."*



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 Cornelius
 1. God is No Impartial
 2. God Observes Our Deeds

3. Worship Only God

Acts 10:24-26 *On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends. When it happened that Peter entered, Cornelius met him, fell down at his feet, and worshiped him. But Peter raised him up, saying, "Stand up! I myself am also a man."*

Revelation 22:8-9 *Now I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. When I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who had shown me these things. He said to me, "See you don't do it! I am a fellow bondservant with you and with your brothers, the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."*



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 1. God is No Impartial
 2. God Observes Our Deeds
 3. Worship Only God

4. Focus on Outreach

Acts 10:24 *On the next day they entered into Caesarea. Cornelius was waiting for them, having called together his relatives and his near friends.*

Outreach must be in our hearts as a way of life

Just like Andrew

1 Peter 3:15-16 *but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.*

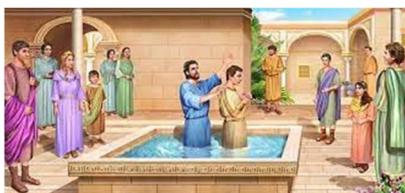


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 4. Focus on Outreach

5. Godly Influence

Acts 10:47-48 *"Can any man forbid the water, that these who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we should not be baptized?" He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay some days.*

Family and friends who were invited were baptized





Conclusion

Many good things about Cornelius

First gentile convert

A gentile who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit

Even so – desired to learn more - Acts 10:48 *He commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay some days.*

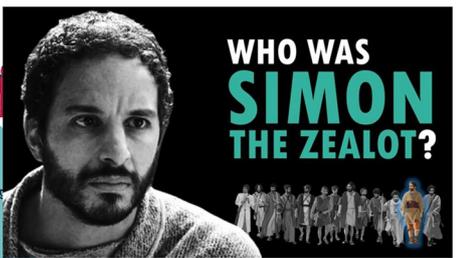
Matthew 28:19-20 *Therefore go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you. Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

Introduction

Cornelius

1. God is No Impartial
2. God Observes Our Deeds
3. Worship Only God
4. Focus on Outreach
5. Godly Influence





WHO WAS
SIMON
THE ZEALOT?

Call to Worship
Scripture Reading
Opening Prayer
Congregational Singing
Communion & Giving
Exhortation
Invitation
Announcements
Closing Prayer

Next Week



JOIN US FOR A
**FELLOWSHIP
DINNER**

Call to Worship
Scripture Reading
Opening Prayer
Congregational Singing
Communion & Giving
Exhortation
Invitation
Announcements
Closing Prayer

Rice & Dishes

All are welcome to bring a dish!
See June

BACK PAGE NEWS



Clockwise: Youth and Men's Care teams, Tng Huat leading the opening prayer, dinner after worship and fellowship. Thanks to Rosaleen for sushi, Iris for desserts and Phai for sweet potatoes.



Kang Hwei - 3rd
Iris - 4th
Selvarajah - 6th
Lilian - 18th