

## Next Door | *a case study in Acts on formissional community*

### **Joining Jesus**

Acts 10:1-6

October 16, 2022

**Introduction:** God has a purpose for your life. An assignment. And it begins right where you are, right next door. The Bible tells us that God “became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood” (John 1:14 MSG). Nothing will challenge and encourage you more than discovering that God can move in and through your life. That he’s already at work in your neighborhood and that he’s eager for you and a circle of others to join him. There’s a biblical pattern for ministry that we at UPC call ‘formissional community’. In this Next Door series we’ll see what that looks like in the live of two men named Peter and Cornelius...

**Prayer:** Father, help us to appreciate Cornelius, a centurion, part of God’s plan. Amen

**Read:** Acts 10:1-6

**Review:** Did you learn anything new about life from last week?

### **Discussion:**

1. How did Cornelius and all his family come to be devout and God-fearing (verse 2)?
2. What were the acts of Cornelius (verse 5)? Why were these so important to be mentioned specifically in this text?
3. Cornelius reacted in fear when he saw the vision “distinctly” as an angel of God. How did the angel help Cornelius with his fear? Have you ever had a “Cornelius experience”?
4. What was God’s purpose in having Peter brought to Cornelius’ home?

**Application:** Be alert to how God can use you in the lives of people you have never met.

**Prayer:** Father, we pray that behind every door in our neighborhood is an opportunity for us to provide your kingdom’s presence. Amen.