



Just Walk Across the Room

Acts 10

One of my first bold moments of “walking across the room” happened on my senior trip in high school. Up until this point, I had been satisfied to just “live” the Christian life without actually “walking across the room.” I was a licensed minister; I preached the faith enthusiastically. I was a fulfillment hour teacher; I taught the faith faithfully. I was heavily involved in music ministry; I sang and played instruments, joyfully making melodies of the faith. One thing I did not do, however, was to share my faith regularly.

That day, however, was different. I don't remember what led me to “walk across the room,” but I did. I do know that, for months, the Holy Spirit had been working on me to get out of my comfort zone and just walk. It seemed like message after message attacked my wall of resistance to witnessing.

On this day, as I walked across the room, not knowing what to say, the power of God showed up and showed out. The result was an individual praying with me to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This experience changed my life.

Even if we lose sight of God's plan of salvation for humanity, He doesn't. So, why walk across the room?

First, God has been working on your heart (v. 9-16, 19-20). The Lord Jesus Christ commanded Peter and the others to go into all the World (**Acts 1:8**). However, up to this point, they'd only been to people like themselves. However, God's plan included more people. So, in this moment, Jesus worked on Peter's heart. By Peter's heart, I mean he had thoughts that weren't right, and he let them stop him from fully doing what God required. He still thought that the Gentiles were unclean and against the law (**Acts 10:28** and **11:2-3**). His thinking paralyzed him from going into "all the world."

What thinking paralyzes you?

- I don't want to bother people
- People are going to be offended
- I don't know what to say
- I still have questions myself
- My life isn't together enough to tell someone about Jesus
- I'm not an evangelist. That's not my gift.
- I don't want to be THAT Christian
- What if it ruins the relationship?
- They already say they have a religion

One mark of a true believer is that God can change your mind and correct your thinking (**Matthew 1:18-25** and **Romans 12:2**). You must admit that God has been working on your thinking. After God addresses Peter's thinking, Peter moves at the Lord's direction. So, since God's been working on your heart, move.

Second, God has been working on others' hearts (v. 1-8). Here is what we as believers miss: God is also working on the hearts of others. Sometimes, He's doing the work BEFORE we've changed our minds about doing what He wants us to do. The person you may be hesitating to talk to may already be prepared by God (**Matthew 9:37; John 16:8**). In our text, **Cornelius was open to God but didn't know** the way to God was through Jesus. He was religious. However, he still needed someone to tell him about Jesus. His devotion to God and sincerity weren't enough. He needed Jesus!

The Gospel itself is the power of God unto salvation (**Romans 1:16-17**) and must be spoken. Although we often refer to **Romans 10:14** when talking about a licensed preacher or pastor, this applies to every believer. So, how can someone believe in HIM whom they have not heard? God, as powerful as He is, has sanctioned that a person must hear the Gospel and respond to the gospel message from another person. The message doesn't arrive without a mouth. And God has been working on the hearts of others.

Third, God is connecting you to ready people (v. 17-48). So, what happened?

- The men from Cornelius arrive where Peter is staying (v. 17-18)
- The Spirit tells Peter to go with them, and he does (v. 19-23)
- The next day, Cornelius was waiting for them, and Peter finally arrived. The two met (v. 24-33).
- Peter preached Jesus to Cornelius and his family (v. 34-43)
- Cornelius and family were saved (v. 44-48)

So, please, stop making something so hard and complicated that God has already orchestrated. We are not God; we are HIS servants. We do His bidding when He wants it done, with whom He wants it done, where He wants it done, and how He wants it done. Just walk across the room. Walk across the threshold.

Has God changed your mind yet?

