

Speaker : Associate Pastor Peter Ong  
Title : Getting God's Attention  
Scriptures : Acts 10:1-7

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### **Introduction:**

In order to be noticed for whatever the reason you have for, you will need to get the attention of the respective one whom you want to notice you, then you are assured that perhaps you would have the chance of whatever reason you have for that person's attention to fulfill your expectation.

When we are in need of any sort and it appears that God is the only one who can help how can we get His attention?

Acts 10:1-7:

- “ There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment,  
2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always.  
3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, “Cornelius!”  
4 And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, “What is it, lord?”  
So he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God.  
5 Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter.  
6 He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do.”  
7 And when the angel who spoke to him had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier from among those who waited on him continually.”

Cornelius of Caesarea, was a Gentile (non Jew) Roman officer who was a commander of 100 soldiers. He was not a believer in Christ then before he met Peter but had some commendable characteristics. He was a God fearing, generous, and prayerful person. He was a good example to his family as well as his soldiers.

### **Content:**

How did Cornelius get God's attention? Was it by his acts? Consider these three attention getters that Cornelius had.

#### **I. He was a seeker (v2) ... he prayed to God regularly (Isaiah 55:6-7; Matthew 7:7, 11) A seeking heart that will go the distance to find gets the attention of a loving God and Heavenly Father.**

Isaiah 55:6-7:

“Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.  
7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God,  
For He will abundantly pardon.”

Matthew 7:7 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

Matthew 7:11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

**II. He was sincere (v5-7) ... he told them everything ... and sent them (Matthew 5:8)**  
**A sincere person who does not withhold the desires from within to reach out to God will experience His divine touch! You certainly have His attention!**  
Matthew 5:8: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

**III. He was submissive (vv4, 7) ... "What is it, Lord?" he asked**  
(Hebrews 11:8; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5-11)  
**Submissiveness to God means obedience ... to follow what and where God leads you to ... His presence will be with you and you have all His attention!**

Hebrews 11: 8:

"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

James 4:6 :

"But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: " God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5-11:

"Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for " God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

10 But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.

11 To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

**Conclusion:**

God through Cornelius brought the Gospel and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit experience to the Gentile community significantly. His sincere seeking and humility caught God's attention and what a blessing it was to so many!

Truly God honors those that sincerely seek Him! (Hebrews 11:6).

Hebrews 11:6:

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

*All scriptures are from New Kings James Version*