



## 5. PETER: CROSS-CULTURAL VISION



What was the vision Peter saw?

How difficult for a Jew to cross-over the boundary?

Where is your boundary God wants to cross-over?

### Review (5 min)

- Movie "School Tie" (1992) working class teen David Green faces racial discrimination at an exclusive prep school.
- Philip's meeting with Ethiopian eunuch and baptism guided by the Holy Spirit.

### Sharing Time (10 min)

Share with your group the times when you felt the presence of God or the movement of the Spirit in your life's journey. (Share your God-moments)

### Discussion with Video Clip

#### Movie "Rabbit-proof Fence" (2002,30 min)

Directed by Phillip Noyce, based on the book by Doris Pilkington Garimara

This is the true story of Molly Craig, a young black Australian girl who leads her younger sister and cousin in an escape from an official government policy to train them as domestic workers and integrate them into white society. In 1931, Molly, Daisy, and Grace (14, 10, and 8) were taken from their Aboriginal mothers to the Moore River Native Settlement. In order to return to their family, they traveled 1500 miles (2414 km) following rabbit-proof fence (2023 miles). An epic journey across an unforgiving landscape describes well the hardship many Aboriginal people experienced in their personal journey.

### Framework for Group Discussion

1. Background
2. Cultural Groups in the story
3. Conflicts and Relationships
4. Cross-Cultural implication for us

#### Background: Social prejudice

- > Where did this social prejudice base on? (Origin of the stolen generation)
- > What happens if our theoretical base is proven wrong?

#### Cultural Groups

- > Identify cultural groups in the story.
- > Is some culture really superior than others?

### Conflicts and Relationships

- > Identify conflicts: between Aborigine's point of view, and Mr Neville's point of view
- > What does this movie tells about Mr Neville?

### Cross-Cultural Approach

- > How can we achieve the reconciliation with the stolen generation?
- > How can we cross over the cultural differences?



### Discussion with Bible Story

#### Peter's Cross-cultural Vision (30 min)

##### Acts 10:1-20, 25-35

**1** At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. **2** He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. **3** One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!" **4** Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. **5** Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter.

**6** He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea." **7** When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants. **8** He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa. **9** About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. **10** He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. **11** He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. **12** It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles of the earth and birds of the air. **13** Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." **14** "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." **15** The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." **16** This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven. **17** While Peter was wondering about the meaning of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out where Simon's house was and stopped at the gate. **18** They called out, asking if Simon who was known as Peter was staying there. **19** While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. **20** So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them."



**25** As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence. **26** But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself." **27** Talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. **28** He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. **29** So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?" **30** Cornelius answered: "Four days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me **31** and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor. **32** Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.' **33** So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us." **34** Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism **35** but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. (NIV)

## Questions for Group Discussion

### Background: From Jew to Gentile

- > Read the Bible readings from Acts 10.
- > Why Jews did not allow to associate with gentiles?

### Cultural Groups

- > Identify different cultural groups in religion or in social statuses.
- > Who initiated the event?

### Conflicts and Relationships

- > What was the relationship between Jews and Gentiles, before and after?
- > What happened when the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit?

### Cross-Cultural Approach

- > Why do we need to cross-over our cultural differences?
- > What happens when we cross-over cultural boundaries?

## Question Time (15 Min)

Next Study: Tue. 16th May, 1pm or 7:30pm(Hybrid)  
 Study 6. Paul's Cross-cultural Mission(Acts 20:1-3,25-36)  
 With Video clip of Government Advertisement & drama  
 "Kick"  
 Prepared by Rev Hoon You