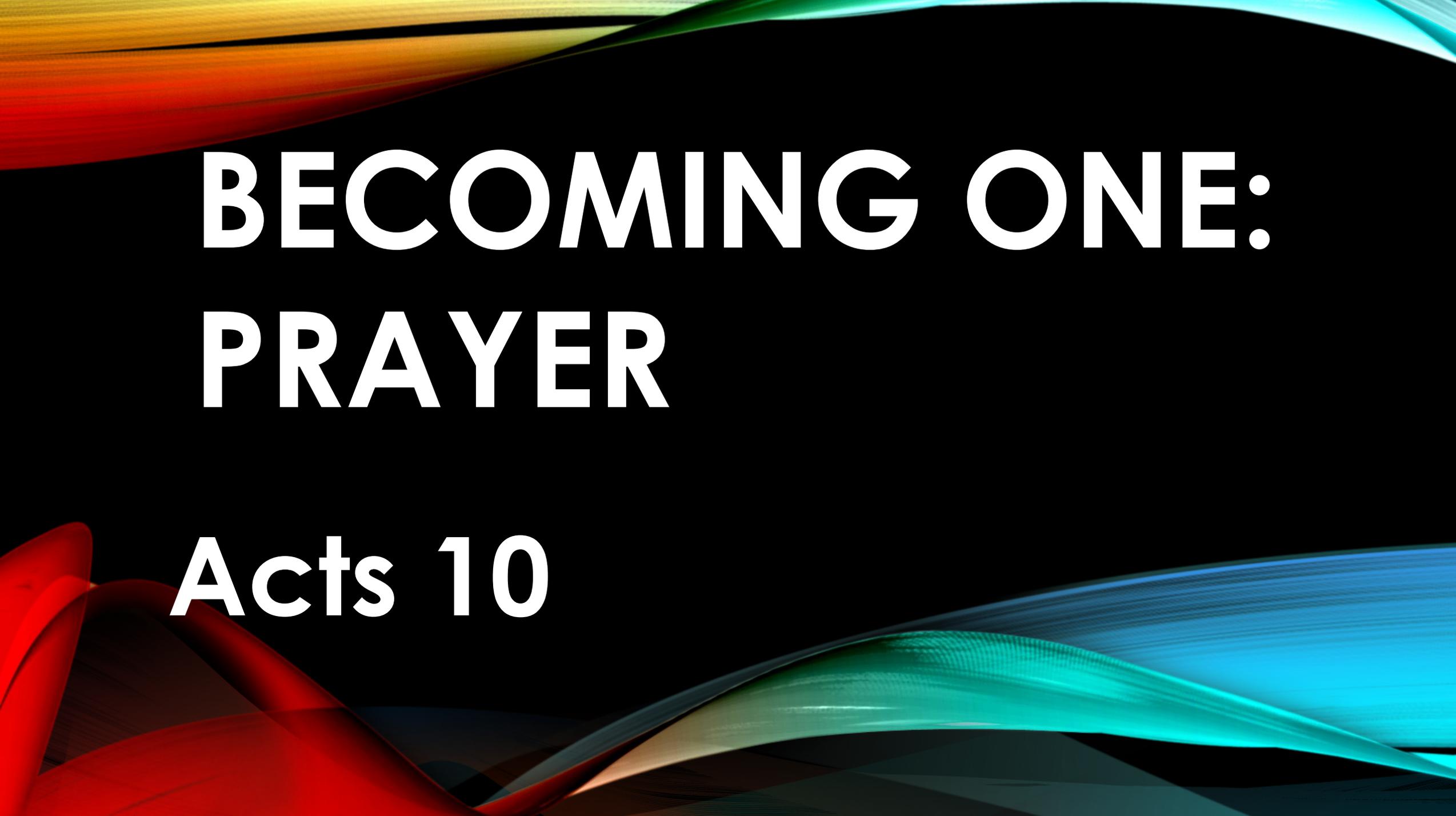




John 17

20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.



BECOMING ONE: PRAYER

Acts 10



Acts:10

1 ¶ Now there was a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort, 2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people and prayed to God continually. 3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!" 4 And fixing his gaze on him and being much alarmed, he said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God.



Acts:10

9 ¶ On the next day, as they were on their way and approaching the city, Peter went up on the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. 10 But he became hungry and was desiring to eat; but while they were making preparations, he fell into a trance; 11 and he *saw the sky opened up, and an object like a great sheet coming down, lowered by four corners to the ground, 12 and there were in it all kinds of four-footed animals and crawling creatures of the earth and birds of the air.



Acts:10

30 Cornelius said, "Four days ago to this hour, I was praying in my house during the ninth hour; and behold, a man stood before me in shining garments, **31** and he *said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. **32** 'Therefore send to Joppa and invite Simon, who is also called Peter, to come to you; he is staying at the house of Simon the tanner by the sea.' **33** "So I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. Now then, we are all here present before God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord."

BEING ONE

- Like no where else, Acts shows us this process:
 - Jesus had taught the Apostles prayer
 - His example and actions
- Essentials of the Kingdom...
 - Worship – 9x
 - Teaching – 19x
 - Preaching 21x + “gossiping the Gospel”
 - Prayer = 30x!

SEARCHING PRAYER

- **Cornelius – devout, feared God**
 - We told about 2 things...
 - He gave alms to Jewish people
 - He “prayed to God continually”
 - Why pray to a conquered people’s God?
- **Many today are “praying” ...**
 - They know they need more
 - They recognize the call of God to them...

POWER PRAYER

- **Up on the roof... (vs. 9)**
 - **Privacy, quiet, perspective changes**
 - **Peter was not ready for the answer he got! Prayer will change how we see things!**
 - **Foods? Unclean? God cleansed!!!**
 - **Where to go, how to go, without “doubt”**
 - **Not ‘Gentiles’, prayer helps us see as God does!**

EFFECTIVE PRAYER

- “I was praying...” (vs. 30)
 - The call came during his time of prayer
 - I sent for you... you came
 - We are here we are ready to hear
- Prayer prepared the hearts of ALL in the house
 - Peter and Cornelius and their people!
 - 2 people praying changed all this!!!
 - Neither one expected the outcome!

ONE IN PRAYER

- Hearts in unity come from His glory
- Prayer continues this work:
 - We are re-focused on His KINGDOM
 - The walls that divide COME DOWN
- 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.