



Unit 33, Session 1

The Jerusalem Council

Acts 15

Story Point: Salvation comes only through faith in Jesus.

Paul and Barnabas had been sharing the gospel with many people—including Gentiles. But some people in the church began to teach that the Gentiles could not be saved unless they first followed some of the same rules the Jews followed.

Paul and Barnabas disagreed, and the church leaders decided to meet in Jerusalem to talk. After a long discussion, Peter stood up and said to the group, “Brothers, God chose me to tell the good news to the Gentiles. They heard the good news, and they believed. God accepted them and gave them the Holy Spirit, just as He did for us.

“We believe that the Jews and Gentiles are saved in the same way—by the grace of the Lord Jesus.

“I think we should not cause trouble for the Gentiles who have trusted in Jesus.

Instead, let’s write them a letter telling them the things they should not do.”

So the church leaders wrote a letter to the Gentile believers. The leaders chose Judas and Silas to go to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas to deliver the letter. Paul and Barnabas stayed in Antioch where they taught believers and told other people the good news about Jesus.

Christ Connection: The church leaders met in Jerusalem to answer a tough question: Can a person be saved by faith alone or is something more needed? The early church agreed that because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, He alone is all we need to be saved.



APPLY the Story

- How did Peter say the Gentiles were saved?
- Why can't our works gain or add to our salvation?
- Where do we find answers to tough questions we have about God?

CHRIST CONNECTION

The church leaders met in Jerusalem to answer a tough question: Can a person be saved by faith alone or is something more needed? The early church agreed that because of Jesus' death and resurrection, He alone is all we need to be saved.



APPLY the Story

- Find Acts 4:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for being the God of salvation and providing all that we need in Jesus.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 3:27-30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Titus 3:5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 2:8-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 4:12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 119:105 | <input type="checkbox"/> John 14:6 |