



Sermon
Discussion
Guide

Sunday, March 2, 2025

ACTS – A Church Sent A Church at Odds

Read/Reflect

Read Acts 15:1-35

1. Some Pharisees insisted that Gentiles who became Christian “must be circumcised and required to obey the law of Moses.” What kinds of things might that have included? (See Mark 2:16, 18, 24; 7:1-5)
2. What is Peter’s experience with this issue like? See Acts 15:7-11; 10:9-20, 27-29; Galatians 2:11-16.

Explore

3. What behavioral norms or expectations are placed upon you because you confess to be a Christian? Do you resist these expectations, or do you follow them because they are part of being “in Christ?”
4. How do you determine what behaviors or activities are characteristic of being a follower of Christ, and which ones are “mere traditions”? What role does grace play in this kind of determination? When does grace become “cheap grace?”
5. If you were James, making a final declaration for today’s context, how would you complete his judgment (see verses 19-20): “... we should not make it difficult for the [new believers] who are turning to God. Instead we should write [speak] to them, telling them ...?”
6. How easy is it for you to accept the decision of a collective body, especially in a church context? When should you comply with a decision that you don’t necessarily agree with for the sake of Christian humility and unity?

Pray

- ... for unity in the church, even as our society appears to become more and more individualized and fragmented.
- ... for the Holy Spirit’s presence and wisdom as we seek guidance for the church and for faithfulness in following Jesus.