

# Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Who obeyed the Law perfectly?
- How are we saved?
- Why should we obey God?

## 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.*

## Council Conundrum

Circle every fourth word in the paragraph. Read the circled words in order to reveal the answer to an important question: Can a person be saved by faith alone, or is something more needed?

Judges runs above Salvation through Acts with comes before in Joel only from falls Genesis through every Paul jumps faith for Peter travels in around scroll Exodus Jesus.

## Nothing More, Nothing Less

Circle the true statements about what is needed for salvation and cross out the statements that are false. Find and read the Scripture references in your Bible to check your answers.

I am saved by trusting in Jesus.

(Acts 16:31)

Jesus is the only sacrifice needed to pay for my sins.

(Hebrews 10:12)

I have to be a good person to be saved.

(Acts 2:37-38)

I have to obey all of God's laws and then I will be saved.

(Romans 4:13)

I am saved by faith alone.

(Romans 10:13)

If I've ever done anything wrong, I can't be saved.

(1 Timothy 1:15)



# Who Can Rescue

**INSTRUCTIONS:** In each scenario, draw a line to the person who can rescue the one in trouble.



Younger Kids Activity Pages

Unit 33 • Session 1

The Jerusalem Council

**BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:**

- Some members of the early church taught that Gentile believers had to obey all the Jewish laws.
- Church leaders met in Jerusalem to talk about what Gentile believers should do.
- Peter, Paul, and others explained that Gentiles could receive the Holy Spirit without the law.
- Salvation comes only through faith in Jesus.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Acts 4:12

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

- What is the Bible about? The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

**FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:**

- Who obeyed the law perfectly?
- How are we saved?
- Why do we still obey God?

**FAMILY ACTIVITY:**

- Add water to a powdered drink mix to make fruit drink. Explain that all you had to add was water. Set aside a glass and add some vinegar, non-toxic soap, or other extra ingredient that would ruin the taste. Compare this to our faith. Jesus is all we need.



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