

Questions from the Sermon

October 11, 2020

Read Acts 15:1-6

1. Would you consider yourself a person who likes conflict, tries to stay away from conflict or do you do anything you can to not have to deal with conflict?

-What is it about conflict that makes you feel this way?
2. Do you believe there are times when conflict is needed or is helpful?
3. What usually causes conflict to turn out badly? Why don't we often handle conflict well?
4. These men came from Judea...what was flawed about what they said?
-and why didn't the church in Antioch just ignore what they had to say?
-why was what they said taken so seriously and caused such a concern?
5. Why do you think this group of pharisees spoke up so strongly?
-what was their concern?
-what were they trying to protect?
6. Do you think this kind of 'protection' is seen in the church today?
-give an example if you can
7. Why do you think Paul and Barnabas spent so much time sharing as they went and when they got to Jerusalem? What were they trying to do?

Read Acts 15:7-12

8. What do you think Peter was referring to when he said that it was by his mouth the Gentiles should hear the Gospel and believe?
(Read Acts 10:9-15...24-28)
9. Why was this this issue of 'clean and unclean' so important when it came to the conflict regarding circumcision?
-What did circumcision mean according to the beliefs of the Jews?
10. Peter says that God made their hearts clean...which is what is required for salvation
-What yoke were they trying to put on the gentile believers?
-What yokes or burdens does the church sometimes put on people today?

11. What did Peter mean in verse 10, asking why they are putting God to the test?
12. What was Peter's final argument? Why did this seem to quiet everyone and end the conflict?

Read Acts 15:30-35

13. Why do you think the letter brought such a joyous and positive reaction from the church in Antioch?
14. What does this teach the church today about what is important and what needs to be our focus?
15. If someone asked you... 'is a person saved by grace alone?' What would you say?
-How would you explain why the law from the Bible is so important for a Christian?
16. What's more important do you think....Grace or Truth?