



KIDS FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE for August 7th- August 13th

Acts In 30 Week 11: The Gospel Spreads

Family Activity: Change

For this activity, we'll be *changing* things up!

No... literally, we are going to be changing everything about your normal family discussion. Help your family understand that lot's can change in our lives, but God is still present even in every little twist and turn. Find lot's of ways to change your normal routine before diving into the discussion: If you're usually at the table, sit on the floor. If you usually eat dinner before are after, make breakfast food instead. Ask you kids to change their clothes... multiple times! Find ways to change everything about what your family is used to. Some of them may think it's fun. Some of them will hate it. Once you've changed, well...everything, explain that we will face lot's of change in our lives but even during change God is still in control of our lives. Even when it's hard and we don't like change, God can make something amazing come out of it if we let Him.

FOCUS: Acts 11:1-17

Peter Explains His Vision In Jerusalem

REFLECT — Peter made it back to Jerusalem and told his fellow believers all that God had done. The other believers had a problem with Peters story because he entered a gentiles house and ate with them. This was not customary for them to do. Peter explained that God had to told him to go and "*who are we to decide what God says is right and wrong?*" Peter stood by the fact that the Spirit told him to go, so obeyed.

Q1 - The believers in Jerusalem didn't think God would speak to the gentiles, is there anyone that God won't speak to? Explain.

The believers in Jerusalem were really sure their way was the "right" way. Is there a "right" way in Christianity, if yes, explain your answer?

FOCUS: Acts 11:18

Even To Gentiles

REFLECT — After Peter fully explained what happened at Cornelius's house, the other believers, eventually, believed what Peter said and glorified God that He had included the gentiles and given them the same access to the Spirit that they had.

Q2 - The believer in Jerusalem eventually believed Peters story, but it was hard them at first; what is the hardest thing for you to believe about the Bible, and why? Should we suppress our questions from God or not tell Him when we don't understand something? Explain. What should we do when we have hard questions or doubts about what God says?

FOCUS: Acts 11:19-25

Barnabas Is Amazed at What God Had Done

REFLECT — After Stephen was killed (remember that in Acts 7?) great persecution broke out against believers in Jesus. This forced many of them to move into new cities. Some of the believers who moved into these new cities started sharing the gospel and lots and LOTS of new people gave their lives to Jesus! The good news of Jesus spread rapidly all over the Middle-East and Asia Minor. When the believers in Jerusalem heard that people were coming to Jesus in cities like Antioch, they sent Barnabas to help shepherd them. When he arrived, he was amazed at all that GOD had done!

Q3 - Barnabas was amazed to see what God had done in Antioch, why do you think he gave God the credit and not the people who were spreading the gospel in Antioch? Does the Holy Spirit lead us in sharing the gospel or does the Holy Spirit wait for us to make take the first step?

FOCUS: Acts 11:26

Barnabas and Paul Shepherd New Christians

REFLECT - Barnabas left Antioch to find Saul (Paul) and bring him back to help shepherd the new believers. They stayed there for a whole year teaching and leading the growing church in Antioch. This was the first place believer's in Jesus were called "Christians."

Q4 - Are you a part of a community of believers like the people were in Antioch, if "yes," how so? Do you have someone teaching you and leading you in your faith like Barnabas and Paul were; if so, who? Do you call yourself a Christian, if so, how did you come to that decision? If not, what questions do you have?



