



KIDS FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE for Sept 4th - Sept 10th

Acts In 30 Week 15: Seeking Council and Splitting Ways

Family Activity: Faith Equation Cards

The aim of this activity is to teach students that Faith in Jesus + nothing = Salvation.

Take an index card and write “=Salvation card”. On other cards create “+Nothing,” “+Reading my bible,” “+Going to church,” “+Praying,” “+Helping the poor,” “+Sharing the Gospel,” etc. Write as many good things as possible. Have 2 volunteers read Ephesians 2:8-9 and Titus 3:4. Have the cards laying face up on table or floor (where all students can see). Ask them, “looking at these cards what would you put together that is the correct equation?” (Faith +Nothing=Salvation) When we add anything to faith in Christ in order to receive salvation we create an unbiblical equation. When we share the Good News with others we want to present the Truth from God’s Word and nothing else. Adding anything to Faith in Jesus Christ alone to receive salvation will always equal a wrong answer just as 2+3=4 does.

FOCUS: Acts 15:1-6

Barnabas and Paul Seek Council

REFLECT — Again, we see “certain people” come to Antioch and demand that all new believers in Jesus must abide by the rules that were put in place by Moses earlier in the Bible. Paul and Barnabas were sent to Jerusalem to ask the elders there what they thought about the matter. Paul and Barnabas told of all the great things God had done through the Gentiles and they people there were glad. Yet again, the pharisees arrived and demanded that Gentiles must keep the law to be saved.

Q1 - Has anyone ever made you feel like you had to change in order to “fit in?” Paul and Barnabas went to Jerusalem to seek advice from the elders there, in what areas of life is it good to seek advice from those older and wiser than you?

FOCUS: Acts 15:7-11

How Do We Receive Salvation?

REFLECT — Peter got up and delivered a bold speech stating that it is *by faith that we are saved* and why would would we give the Gentiles a yoke (burden) that neither we nor our ancestors could bare. What Peter is saying is that it is by our trust in God that He saves us, not by us following all the rules without fail. God’s law is very important and good to follow, but following all of the rules is not what saves you. It is trusting and having faith in Jesus alone.

Q2 - If a friend asked you how to be saved, what would you say? Is Peter saying there is no need to obey God’s law? Explain. How would your parents take it if you said you loved them but then didn’t obey their rules.

FOCUS: Acts 15:28-35

Antioch Is Encouraged

REFLECT — The elder wrote a letter to the new believers in Antioch that had just a few rules for them to follow so that they would stand out and not be tempted to go back to the way they were living before knowing Jesus. When the church in Antioch received the letter, they were so glad and encouraged.

Q3 - Why was the church in Antioch encouraged by receiving rules? How can you encourage a friend of yours this week?

FOCUS: Acts 15:36-41

Paul and Barnabas Split Up

REFLECT — Unfortunately, Paul and Barnabas got into a big dispute. They couldn’t agree on who to take with them on their travels. It ended up with them parting ways. Even strong believers can have disagreements that never get settled. Paul went one way and Barnabas went another way.

Q4 - Have you ever had a dispute with a close friend? Were you able to settle it? Is there a dispute going on in your life right now, if so, what are some ways you can handle it well?

