

HOW IT
STARTED

HOW IT'S
GOING

WEEK 6 - THE JERUSALEM COUNCIL (GENTILES BELIEVE)

OVERVIEW

As the message of Jesus spread rapidly around the Jewish world, the disciples began to hear invitations from the Spirit to preach the gospel to Gentiles, and they found non-Jewish believers who had received the Holy Spirit. This was enough to convince many disciples that Gentiles could now be a part of the Jesus movement. However, others struggled with this and were unconvinced. This led to the Jerusalem Council, where Church leaders sought consensus and wisdom from the Spirit about how to proceed. This moment, in which a decision was made which shaped the future of the church, was a glimpse at how even today Church leaders can pursue spiritual discernment together.

"For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us..."

Acts 15:28

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read *Acts 15: 1-35*. Why was this such a key issue between believers?
2. Dave stated, There is no longer any us and them. So, who are those people whom you can't imagine including in your life or our faith?
3. Finish this sentence. "I'll welcome and include those people if they..."
4. Read *Acts 15: 8-11* again. Is your welcome and inclusion "as graceful as God's"? Why, or why not?
5. What's one step you could take to welcome or include someone you wouldn't normally consider?

RESOURCES

gracechurch.us