

## Acts 15 Life Group Notes

Hi all, hopefully you've got some good ideas for how to do life groups using tech and are having some fun doing so. With our youth life group this week we played a game of reverse charades where everyone on the screen was acting out a movie/book etc. at the same time and one person had to try and guess what it was. Very funny!

There were 3 main points from the preach this week. Remind yourselves of the passage and context and then look at the questions and application below:

1. 15:1 and 15:5 were both attempts to add to the Gospel of Jesus, first through circumcision and then through obedience to the Law of Moses.
  - a. What is the best thing you've read or seen others doing in this first week of lockdown? Are you more likely to i) celebrate with other's success ii) Feel jealous of what they are doing iii) feel rubbish or unsecure about your own 'failure' in coping? How does knowing and applying the Gospel help us when it comes to our own insecurity when looking at the 'success' of others?
  - b. What do you think is meant by the term 'the sufficiency of Christ?' How does Peter point to this in vs. 8-11?
  - c. What would stop your 'perfect day'? i.e. if you tried to live sinless for 24 hours what one thing (or first thing!) would trip you up? Peter talks about the Law being a yolk no one could bear. Why is it significant to us that Jesus was able to fulfil the Law?
  - d. If, then, I am saved by grace, does it matter how I live my life? For some extra thoughts on this read Gal. 5:13-26 and 6:1-10
2. The Pharisee Group were experiencing a time of great change and uncertainty as the Gospel went out from their church in Jerusalem to the rest of the world.
  - a. How well do you deal with change out of 10?
  - b. What do you 'run to' for comfort when there is change and uncertainty? Maybe a habit or an old addiction?
  - c. Share ways together that we can instead run to Jesus as the anchor of our soul (Hebrew 6:19)
3. Acts 15 is a masterclass in how to handle conflict. What is your default reaction when conflict comes? Peacemaker? Screamer and shouter? Head in the sand? Sulker? Look at the following points below, find them in the text and then share honestly as to how you manage each one and ways to apply each one:
  - a. Picking your battle and knowing when something does need challenging; not shying away from conflict when it is necessary
  - b. Using the language of love and being full of love for those we are in conflict with
  - c. Have the humility to seek wisdom from others
  - d. Making unity not victory the most important thing we are fighting for
  - e. Being led by the Holy Spirit and by Scripture

f. Making concessions for the sake of maintaining fellowship