

# When Grace Comes To Church — ACTS 15

Sermon Discussion Guide - July 3, 2022

## **Intro Question:**

Describe the places where you get together with those who are most unlike you (different worldview or beliefs, ethnicity, socio-economic status, political views, etc.). Discuss what it takes to be friends with those most unlike you?

## **I. The Law of Moses: BECOMING A JEW**

Read VS 1-5 together.

- Why was it so important to the Jews that the Gentiles be circumcised (think about Gen. 17)? How would it be difficult for a believing Jew to fellowship with an uncircumcised Gentile believer?
- What “laws” might we have (whether intentionally or unintentionally) that subtly create barriers between us as Christians with non-Christians? Which ones most create barriers between us and other Christians?

## **II. The Grace of Jesus: BECOMING A CHRISTIAN**

Read VS 6-11.

- How does the Law of Moses lead us to a need for a Savior? What areas of holiness most bring conviction to you personally?
- Read VS 11 along with Eph. 2:8-9, 2 Tim. 1:9. What does it mean to be saved through the grace of Jesus? How was Jesus able to forgive our sin and present us as righteous before God?
- If we are saved through grace apart from our good works, how should this affect our need to prove ourselves by keeping the law by our performance?

## **III. The Kingdom of God: BECOMING THE CHURCH**

Read VS 12-21.

- How does God’s grace create a safe place to accept, genuinely love, and welcome people different than us into our homes and into our church?
- In what ways might you need to repent of putting laws or expectations on yourself or on others that God has already dealt with by His grace? Discuss 1-2 people different from you that God might be calling you to move toward to love and accept.