



“Don’t Get in the Way”
Acts 15:1-11

“Traditions can be wonderful things. This gives us a sense of continuity and heritage. They can remind us of good times. They also can keep us from growing if we keep looking back and not forward. What faith traditions do I sometimes make obstacles in my growth in being a follower of Jesus?”

KEY VERSE: *“We tell you the good news: what God promised our fathers he has fulfilled for us their children by raising up Jesus” (Acts 13:32)*

Acts 15 and the potential derailing of the gospel movement in the early church is a great reminder of how to handle conflict when it arises. Paul’s own former party, the Pharisees stand up to oppose what he is doing, and God uses his people to settle the dispute in a way that honors Him.

Read through Acts 15:1-21. How would you summarize the problem, the process, and the solution?

Paul and Barnabas had some great success in their travels. They have seen miracles, conversions, and God’s power at work. This new charge must have been a major distraction for them, especially from people with whom they were familiar. So, to prevent similar distractions from God’s movement,

I need to know what is _____.

Read Acts 15:1-5

What is the “_____”?

Summarize your understanding of what the core gospel message is?

See 1 Corinthians 15, Ephesians 1:3-5, 2 Peter 3:13 for some help.

I need _____.

Read Acts 15:10-11.

What am I tempted to _____ to the gospel?

Here are the 5 “Solas” (alones) we affirm

Through faith alone

According to scripture alone

In Christ alone

By grace alone

For God’s glory alone

Which of these do I sometimes forget?

I need to stand _____ with God’s family?

Read Acts 15:30-33.

Do I advance God’s _____ or my _____?

How many “together” “unity” phrases can you see in this section? What does that tell you about how the church responded to the decision by the apostles?

How do I respond if things do not go my way?

This week

- In what ways do I allow my personal preferences or beliefs stand in the way of God’s mission?
- What will I do differently?