

Removing Barriers

The background 14:26-28

After their first missionary journey

An issue arose 15:1-2a

An appeal to the apostles in Jerusalem 15:3

The problem stated 15:5

What must one do to be saved?

They were believers

They were Pharisees

They wanted to add requirements to the Gospel

Peter's comments 15:7-11

God's choice 7

God accepted the Gentiles 8

God did not discriminate 9

Why put God to the test? 10

*We believe that it is by the grace of the Lord Jesus
that we are saved, even as they are v. 11*

Paul & Barnabas 12

James' Comments 13-21

*It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make
it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God v. 19*

Questions for discussion

1. What are some barriers that might make it difficult for people to come to God?
2. What can we do to remove some of these barriers?
3. What are some things we (or, at least, some people) might add to the gospel or as requirements to join "our" church?
4. What should our standard be for determining salvation or church membership?
5. What barriers did Jesus overcome to save us?
6. How might Jesus' coming to earth serve us as an example for reaching others?
7. What must one do to be saved? What is the message of the Gospel? Why is it good news?
8. What can we do to make more and better followers of Jesus?