

CrossRoads Community Church
Sermon Summary Sheet, Week of August 16, 2020
Here Comes the Church!
Part 12: The Bottom Line of the Church, Acts 15: 1-41

As we continue to follow up our celebration of the birth of the Church on Pentecost Sunday, we look at how the early church lived out their faith based on being filled with the Spirit. What does that mean for the church today?

TODAY'S TRUTH The Holy Spirit came upon the original followers of Jesus Christ at Pentecost, solidifying them and empowering them as His people, His Church. **Although they began with "one accord," (Acts 2:46) the Church still had disagreements and dealt with them – those regarding beliefs and those regarding behavior.**

1. DEFINE BASIC DOCTRINE

Acts 15:2 "Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them,..."

- ***The Traditions of Men– Exodus 18:20, Mark 7: 9,13***
- ***The Truth of the Messiah– Matt. 5:17***

2. DISCARD BURDENSOME DEMANDS

Acts 15:28 "For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;..."

- ***Avoid Causing Stumbling– Rom. 14:13, 1 Corinthians 10: 24, 31-33***
- ***Abide, Connect with our Savior– Matthew 11: 29-30***

APPLYING THE POINTS OF THE JERUSALEM COUNSEL

- ***Abstain from things polluted by Idols– Purity of Worship***
- ***Abstain from Blood, from things Strangled – Purity from Worldliness***
- ***Abstain from Sexual Immorality – Purity in Marriage***

3. BE DEVOTED BEYOND DISAGREEMENT

Acts 15:39,41 "Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another...and Paul went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches."

- ***Pursue Peace and Holiness– Hebrews 12: 14***
- ***Perceive Problems and Pollution – Hebrews 12:15***

CONCLUSION

As the Church, we are a family of born- again believers "saved by grace through faith" (Ephesians 2:8). We live our lives based on the Word of God, not according to man-made customs. When we disagree on matters not regarding salvation, we seek peace and show grace, and continue our devotion to the Head of the Church, Jesus.