





The Jerusalem Council

Lesson Theme Poster / Unit 18 / Lesson 178

Lesson Focus

When false teachers began teaching that the Gentile believers needed to observe Old Testament laws to be saved, the apostles and elders gathered in Jerusalem. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they concluded that justification comes through faith alone, not by works of the law. Paul addressed the same issue when he wrote to the believers in Galatia.

Key Passages

Grades 2–3: Acts 15; Galatians 2:15–16, 2:20–21

Grades 4–5: Acts 15; Galatians 1:6, 2:15–16, 2:20–21, 3:1–2, 5:1

What You Heard in the Word

- ▶ Jewish believers began teaching that the Gentiles needed to have faith in Jesus AND follow Old Testament laws to be saved. The apostles and elders gathered at the Jerusalem council to discuss the matter.
- ▶ Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the group concluded that justification comes through faith alone, not by works of the law.

