



Week 19 | February 24 Sermon

Community:

Take some time for fun, light-hearted conversation this week. Use your LIFE Cards or just simply ask a few questions to get to know new things about each other. No doubt the conversation will flow! Here are a few ideas of questions to ask.

Which picture best represents (or simply describe)...

- Your perfect weekend?
- Your life right now?
- What you were like in middle school?
- Something you are grateful for?
- Your current view of God?
- How you have changed in this current season of your life?
- A favorite memory from your childhood?
- Your feelings about church or religion?
- A cause of your stress?
- Something that made you laugh recently?

*As a reminder, Life Cards are available anytime outside my office and are yours to keep!

Share about an experience that represents either your best, worst or first of the following...

- Date
- Vacation
- Meal
- Vehicle
- Trip to the ER
- Childhood memory
- Middle school experience
- High school experience

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25***

GROUPS

Sermon Title: Solving Conflicts in Multicultural Church

Text: Acts 15; Galatians 1:6-9; 2:1-14; 3:1-2; 4:1-11; 5:2-3, 19-23

Auditorium Discussion Questions::

What are the conflicts and tensions that have built to this peak moment leading to the calling of the Jerusalem council? Try to capture it in your own words.

What are the corrections Paul is trying to bring to his Jewish & Gentile audiences?

Where are you tempted to believe a “different gospel” than salvation by grace, through faith, in Christ alone?

How can we be wise about the danger of wanting to make disciples of ourselves, our culture, or our values, rather than disciples of Jesus Christ?

Are there ways we might be making it harder, consciously or unconsciously, for those around us to come close to Jesus, to seek Him, to follow Him? Consider repenting and ask God to help us become people who remove obstacles rather than construct them.

Sanctuary Discussion Questions::

In Kevin’s study notes he wrote, “One of the risks in church planting is that because of their spiritual immaturity, the new elders were more vulnerable than they might be later to being influence by unhealthy detours/deviations in doctrine and practice. What must have been Paul’s worst case scenario had unfolded in these new church plants while Paul and Barnabas were Sabbath-Keeping in Antioch.”

Please read the passages listed at the top of the page. What was “Paul’s worst case scenario?”

Has this “worst case scenario” ever been your experience? If so, please explain.

Kevin described the spiritual counter attack against the believers like this:

False believers	Racism
Fear	Broken relationships
Criticism	Hypocrisy
Persecution	Enslavement to “elemental spirits”

Has our spiritual enemy ever attacked you, your family or your worshiping community with any of these tactics? How do you respond? Was victory achieved? How?

The powerful influence of these “elemental spirits” (Gal. 4:3, 8-9) whether in the form of religious legalism or the principalities of darkness will always produce “the works of the flesh” (Gal. 19-21). Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Conversely, a healthy dependence on the One who justifies by faith will always produce the Fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).

If any group member is feeling enslaved by demonic power, will you pray for each other requesting a release from captivity and the renewing life of the spirit for these loved ones?