



Council at Jerusalem

May 2, 2021

Acts 15:1-18

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

Loving God, you showed your followers that their salvation didn't depend upon culture or traditions, but on the grace freely offered by your Spirit. Show us the same open vision of mercy offered to all, regardless of background or practice, for the sake of the whole world. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. (Acts 15:8-9)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

The early Christian church had a debate that brought the concept of grace to the surface. It would be God's gifts, not people's adherence to the laws, that would cleanse and save.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Do you live as though you have been saved by God's grace or by your good works? What difference does it make? How does your faith inform your behaviors?

How do you handle conflict? What has been the most effective way for you to resolve conflict?

For the littles: What do you do when you get angry?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bless your conflicts. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Take a conflict resolution course online or in person. Use the tools you gain to resolve your conflicts.



Go Deeper: Visit clergystuff.com/daily-devotions.

Monday: *The Conversion of Lydia*, Acts 16:11-15

Tuesday: *Paul and Silas in Prison*, Acts 16:16-40

Wednesday: *Paul Sails for Rome*, Acts 27:1-12

Thursday: *The Storm at Sea*, Acts 27:13-38

Friday: *The Shipwreck*, Acts 27:39-28:16

Saturday: *Paul Preaches in Rome*, Acts 28:23-31