## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Praying Together**

Each Sunday, we meet to pray at 8:45 am in the lower level of the Cabin. All are welcome to join together for this time of prayer.

### **Acts Bible Reading Plan**

You are invited to read along in the book of Acts each week, using the YouVersion Bible App. Click this QR code to connect to a Bible Reading Plan for Acts, that will also have a short daily devotional with it. We will be teaching and preaching Acts 15 today, and then you are encouraged to read Acts 16 this week.



### **No Youth Group Tomorrow**

There will be no Middle School and High School Youth Group on Monday since students are off school for Martin Luther King Jr Day.

### NEWDAY WEEKLY EMAIL

If you would like to receive NewDay's Weekly Email, with information about upcoming community opportunities, write your name and email here, rip it off, and leave this at the Offering Table in the back.

NAME

EMAIL

 $\square$ CONTACT

Email: info@newdaycov.org ADDRESS

ONLINE

Website:

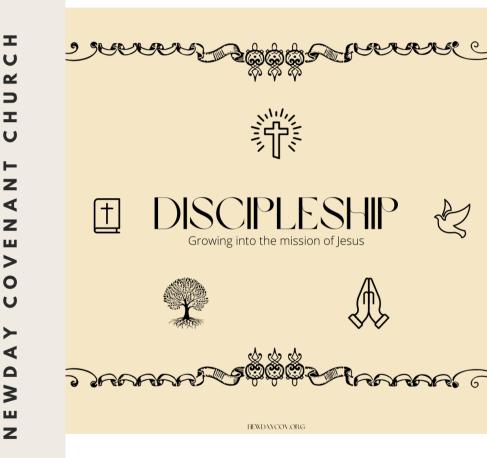
The Izaak Walton Cabin 937 7th Ave NE www.newdaycov.org Rochester, MN 55906



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"Lead me in Your truth—teach it to me—because You are the God who saves me. I put my hope in You all day long." Psalm 25:5



January 14, 2024 Pastor Kari Jacott **Discipleship 101** 

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

#### Acts 15:1-21

Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: "Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved." 2 This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question. 3 The church sent them on their way, and as they traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, they told how the Gentiles had been converted. This news made all the believers very glad. 4 When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them.

5 Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, "The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses."

6 The apostles and elders met to consider this question. 7 After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. 8 God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. 9 He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. 10 Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? 11 No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

12 The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them. 13 When they finished, James spoke up. "Brothers," he said, "listen to me. 14 Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. 15 The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written:

16 "'After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent.
Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it,
17 that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who bear my name,
says the Lord, who does these things'-

18 things known from long ago.

19 "It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. 20 Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. 21 For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath."

## NOTES

# **SERMON QUESTIONS**

What wonders do I have about this text? What did I learn today that was new or different?

As the early church began worshiping together, they had so many differences. Yet, Jesus united them, and helped them overcome human differences. What are the biggest differences you see between people in the modern day church?

How do these differences impact our understanding of discipleship?

Discipleship is an active process of belonging to Jesus, and striving to follow Him, living closely with Him, and doing as He did. What ways am I seeking to actively follow Jesus, and do what He did?

In what areas am I wrestling in the discipleship journey, or feeling discouraged?

What areas of my life and walk with Jesus can I celebrate and rejoice in, as the Holy Spirit has transformed me?

Who will I ask to pray for me and encourage me, or bring my questions to about discipleship and following Jesus? (If you can't think of someone, please ask Pastor Kari, Derek or Melinda for some ideas on this one)

