



## Small Group Study Questions

### Week 23

#### **Acts 15:1-2 (NASB 1995)**

Some men came down from Judea and *began* teaching the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” **2** And when Paul and Barnabas had great dissension and debate with them, *the brethren* determined that Paul and Barnabas and some others of them should go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and elders concerning this issue.

#### **Genesis 12:1-3 (NASB 1995)**

Now the Lord said to Abram,  
“Go forth from your country,  
And from your relatives  
And from your father’s house,  
To the land which I will show you;  
**2** And I will make you a great nation,  
And I will bless you,  
And make your name great;  
And so you shall be a blessing;  
**3** And I will bless those who bless you,  
And the one who curses you I will curse.  
And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

#### **Genesis 15:4-6 (NASB 1995)**

**4** Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.” **5** And He took him outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” **6** Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

#### **Genesis 17:9-11 (NASB 1995)**

**9** God said further to Abraham, “Now as for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. **10** This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised. **11** And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.

#### **Genesis 17:21-24 (NASB 1995)**

**21** But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this season next year.” **22** When He finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.  
**23** Then Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all *the servants* who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham’s household, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the very same day, as God had said to him.  
**24** Now Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

#### **Romans 4:9-12 (NASB 1995)**

**9** Is this blessing then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, “Faith was credited to Abraham as righteousness.” **10** How then was it credited? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised; **11** and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them, **12** and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

## DIGGING DEEPER

If you have kids (still in house or grown), how do others know that they are part of your family?

What's hard teaching in Scripture that you've worked at understanding?

### **Read Acts 15:1-2**

What is wrong with this teaching?

How is someone "saved"?

What's significant about the brethren sending Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem?

### **Read Genesis 15:4-6**

What's the promise/covenant that God gives to Abraham?

## DIGGING DEEPER

What's the result of God giving the promise to Abraham?

### **Read Genesis 17:9-11**

What's the purpose of circumcision? Who was to go through circumcision?

### **Read Romans 4:9-12**

In your own words, what's Paul's argument? How does it apply to you and to me?

Do you have the faith that Abraham had that what God has promised will come true?

## TAKING IT HOME

## PRAYER REQUEST

