

Groups Sermon Study Questions
Legalism and Rumors Revisited

March 24, 2019

## **Message Summary**

In the days of the early church, one of the biggest issues of the day centered around this question: Must followers of Jesus follow the Jewish law and customs? As the early church wrestled with this question, the apostle Paul continued to spread the Good News of Jesus amongst the Jews and Gentiles throughout his journeys. This led to some misguided claims about Paul's teachings. This week we examined how the early church addressed, once again, the issue of faith and culture and how we can honor Christ above all.

## **Consider This**

- Have you ever been judged for something you said or did that you didn't think was wrong? How did it make you feel?
- 2. Have you experienced others practicing their faith in Christ differently than you were used to? Did you judge them for their style?
- 3. Does following Jesus look the same for everyone? Why do you say that?

## Read Acts 21:17-26

- 1. How did the James and the church elders respond to Paul's report of his ministry?
- 2. What concern did James and the church elders have about Paul's ministry? Why was this important?
- 3. What did they suggest that Paul do to address this concern?
- 4. How did Paul respond? Why do you think he responded in this way?
- 5. What did the church elders ask Gentile believer to abstain from? Why do you think they asked them to do so?
- 6. Do we, today, ever experience "misguided concern" from other believers? Why do you think so?
- 7. How can we address these concerns in a way that honors Christ?
- 8. What should be the standard for the way we live?
- 9. What can we learn from Paul's response to the church elders?
- 10. Why do you think it is important to submit ourselves in this way?

## **Moving Forward**

You have your preferred styles of worship that come from the culture and context you live in. Just because another believer has a different style of worship doesn't mean that it is wrong or less sincere than yours. Believers must love one another and accept one another's worship styles as long as it is biblical.

Below are several passages to reflect on this week:

John 17:20-26	Romans 14:1-23
1 Corinthians 1:10-17	1 Corinthians 3:1-23
1 Corinthians 9:19-23	Galatians 2:1-10
Galatians 3:6-14	Ephesians 4:1-16

Hebrews 13:7-17