

1. Acts 14:21 and 14:26 both refer to a city named Antioch. In which “Antioch” do we find Paul and Barnabas at the beginning of chapter 15? Where is this city in relation to Jerusalem?
2. There are commonly agreed-upon paragraph divisions at verses 1, 6, 12, 22, and 30. Write the main idea or event as an identifying label for each paragraph to describe the progress of the passage.
3. What was the experience (15:1 & 24) for these new Gentile believers, because of the challenge from “some of the sect of the Pharisees”? (v 5)
4. How would you summarize the issue at stake in verses 1-35.
5. Who are the named individuals who deal with this issue – who speaks out? List each individual and summarize what each says. Also, why was each of these individuals appropriate to speak to the issue?
6. What groups of people are mentioned in the passage and what do you surmise regarding their involvement in dealing with the issue?
7. Evidently this was a critical theological issue for the early church. What steps did they take to deal with it and what can we learn from what they did?

8. The concluding instruction of the apostles, elders, and the church to gentile believers, expressed by James in Acts 15:20 might be surprising to some.
- a According to Acts 15:13-14, what is James' stand on the Gentiles?
 - b What does James do next, in verse 15. How does he validate his position?
 - c What is the desire expressed in verse 19?
 - d What are the Gentile believers to abstain from and why? cf. v. 29.
9. What does "Moses... is read... every Sabbath" mean? How does that statement support the instructions given to Gentile believers?
10. The Council instructs the Gentile believers with a call to abstinence. But is it, in fact, "a trouble" (15:19), or a "yoke" (15:10), that they cannot bear. Why do you think so... or, why not?
11. The Apostle Paul addresses the issue of what is required for salvation in his writing. Summarize what you learn about the relationship between the Mosaic Law and salvation in the following?
- a Romans 3:9-24 –
 - b Titus 3:3-7 –
 - c Galatians 3:19-28 –
12. Taking into account the instruction to Gentile believers in Acts 15:20-21 and what you have observed in these cross-references, how would you summarize the doctrine of salvation by grace. How would you explain it to someone else?