Power to adapt to a changing mindset. Acts 15: 1 – 21

It is challenging to walk in step with the Holy Spirit!

* Gentiles have responded to the Gospel
* Cornelius and his family receive the Holy Spirit and are baptised
* New Christians in Antioch
* What is necessary to be saved?

Sharp dispute and debate Acts 15: 1 - 21

* There is a lot of talking
* There is a lot of listening
* There is a searching of God’s word

There is leadership Acts 15: 19 – 21, 24 – 29

* We should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.’
  + Abstain from meat sacrificed to idols
  + Abstain from sexual immorality
  + Abstain from the meat of strangled animals
  + Abstain from blood.
* Some went out from us without authority and disturbed you
* We are sending Judas and Silas to confirm by word of mouth, what we are writing.

Gospel Challenges, Gospel Opportunities, Growing Younger.

Digging Deeper

1. What can we learn from how the leaders in the early church handled the difficulties raised by the men who went from Judea to Antioch?
2. In what areas so you find you are likely to exercise authority that has not been given to you? What tends to happen when we do this?
3. Paul and Barnabas confront the men who are teaching the new believers in Antioch that they must be circumcised to be saved. They act, rather than sit back. Are you someone who takes responsibility or one who sits back? What is it that causes you to act in this way?
4. There was a lot of talking and discussing. How many references to communication can you find in Acts 15:1 – 21?
5. What barriers do we put up, knowingly or unknowingly, that make it hard for new believers?
6. How willing are you to have your mindset and the way you do things challenged or changed?