

Overcome Differences

Acts 15:1–20



1 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[a] 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’[b]—

18 things known from long ago.[c]

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.

Faith Fact:

We can solve disagreements with God's help.

Faith Verse: Ephesians 4:3

³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

We can solve
disagreements
with God's
help.



We are better together !!!!

What about when we don't feel like we're "better together"?

We will have disagreements, but how we handle them is what really matters. Our Faith Fact today is

We can solve disagreements with God's help.



Let's test some things that we might agree or disagree about right now.

God made us all different, and we may like some things that other people don't.

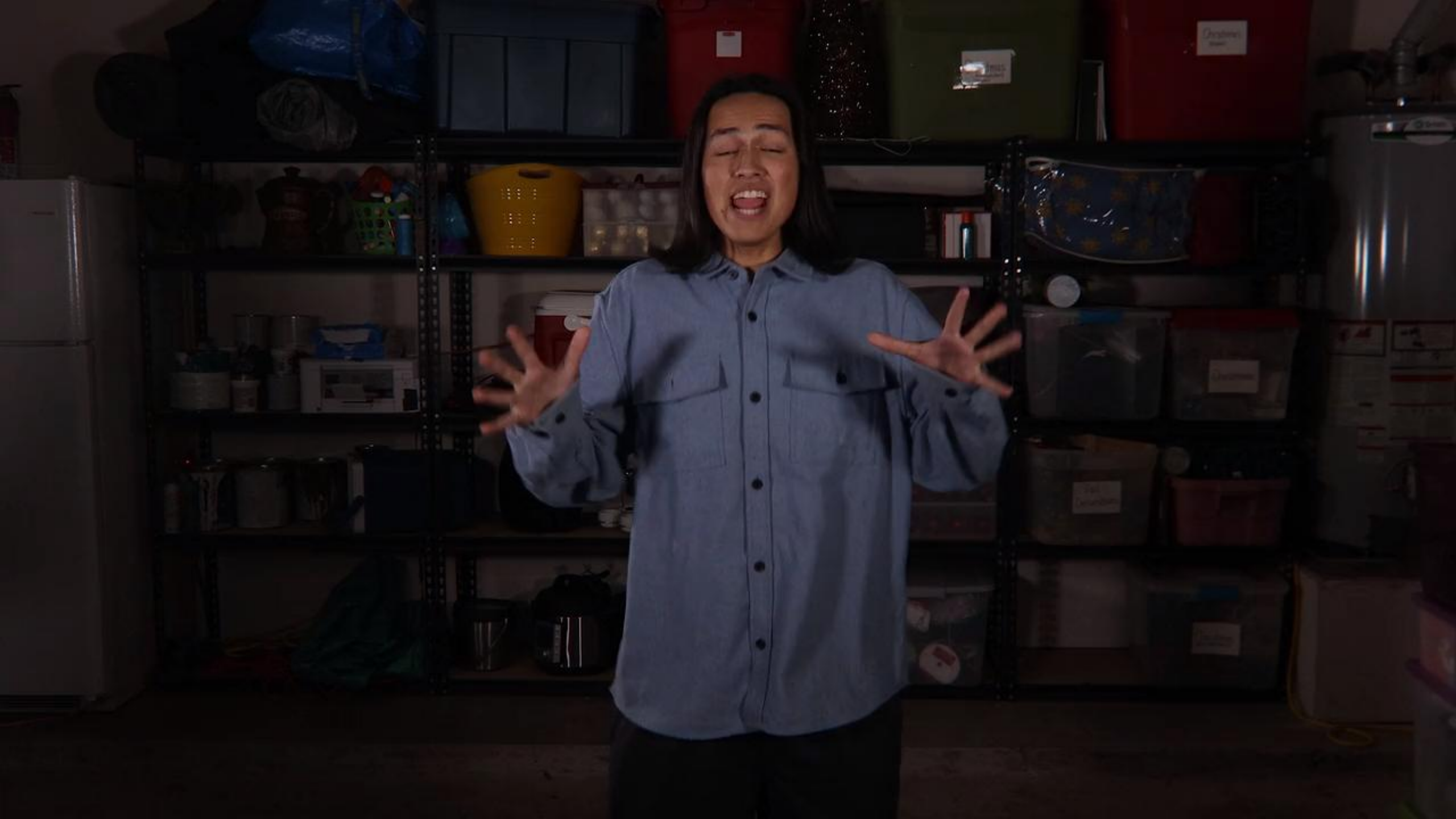
Most of the time that's okay.

If you agree... move to the right

If you disagree... move to the left

Hamburgers or hot dogs better

Soccer is better or basketball.



1 Some believers had a **major disagreement.**



major disagreement

It was a major issue because it was about salvation, and that was a big deal.

Now they weren't arguing over on baptize or what songs to sing.

The eternal destiny of the people's salvation was on the line.

Very important... heaven or hell



2 They went to church leaders
to discuss the
disagreement.



These early believers and leaders showed us that when we have disagreements, we should come together and talk things through.

God has placed leaders
in our life for a reason.

Our leaders help us learn and grow.

But they also correct us when we are wrong.



3 People gave proof for their argument, then **an agreement was reached.**

Many of the leaders stood up to share their proof for why the Gentiles were saved without following the Jewish law

Many of the leaders look to the Bible for answers when it comes to salvation questions



VOLUME 10

— • FAITH FACT • —

We can solve
disagreements
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SESSION 3


LIVE
KIDS