

“ALL ARE INCLUDED”
All In This Together Series, Part 2
November 14, 2021

The church is not for _____,
it’s for _____

“¹Certain individuals 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.’ ²This 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. ³The 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. ⁴When 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. ⁵Then 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.’ ⁶The apostles and elders met to consider this question. ⁷After 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. ⁸God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. ⁹He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. ¹⁰Now 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? ¹¹No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.’ ¹²The 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. ¹³When they finished, James spoke up. ‘Brothers,’ he said, ‘listen to me. ¹⁴Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles.’”

Acts 15:1-14

“¹⁹‘It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. ²⁰Instead 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. ²¹For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath.’” Acts 15:19-21

“³⁰So they were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. ³¹The people read it and were glad for its encouraging message.” Acts 15:30-31

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Three truths...

1. ALL people _____

2. ALL people _____

3. ALL people _____

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NEXT WEEK ...

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To some extent, the American dream can be summarized in one word: autonomy. In our society people are on a quest to be completely independent - to be free to do what they want when they want. At first glance this may appear desirable, but it is actually an empty destination. As we take a look at what the Bible says, we'll discover that fulfillment is not found in isolation, but in becoming an

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