

Grace at a Glance

Council at Jerusalem

Acts 15:1-18

Sunday, May 18, 2025

New Member Sunday

Spring Rhubarb Festival



Scripture Acts 15:1-18

Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” <sup>2</sup>And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. <sup>3</sup>So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. <sup>4</sup>When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup>But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, “It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.”

<sup>6</sup>The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup>After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the Gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. <sup>8</sup>And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us; <sup>9</sup>and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. <sup>10</sup>Now therefore why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup>On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.” <sup>12</sup>The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles. <sup>13</sup>After they finished speaking, James replied, “My brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup>Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the Gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. <sup>15</sup>This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written, <sup>16</sup>‘After this I will return, and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen; from its ruins I will rebuild it, and I will set it up, <sup>17</sup>so that all other peoples may seek the Lord—even all the Gentiles over whom my name has been called. Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things

<sup>18</sup>known from long ago.’”

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, Whether we are aware of it or not, we often put up barriers, deciding for ourselves who is “in” and who is “out” of your righteous reign. Shake us out of our need to control, and open our hearts to accept all people without exception, as you do. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.



QR direct link to 'Give' feature on Grace website!



MAY MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Mission of the Month at Grace is Dwelling Place. The Dwelling Place offers safe transitional housing and Christ-centered support services for women and children who have suffered domestic abuse.

Dwelling Place's extended-stay program provides a loving community and one-on-one case management to help clients discover their new identity: a woman created by God, worthy of love, and beautiful inside and out. The Dwelling Place offers healing and hope.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation to this organization which reaches out to God's women and children at some of their most frightening moments and offers safety, guidance and hope for a better future.

Please use your blue multi-purpose envelope, mark mission of the month and place in the offering plate or mail to the church office. Checks should be made payable to Grace. Thank you.

This Sunday we worship at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary.

Confidential Prayer Link: <https://forms.gle/oCUEbVJ6CkmdD3nB6>

We have established a confidential prayer email that we have added to our website which can be used by anyone wishing for prayers. This can be made available to just the pastor, the pastor and the prayer chain, OR the pastor, the prayer chain, and the congregation as you choose. Please feel free to test it out. This is just one more way you can access our pastor and/or the prayer team.

We have a dedicated free phone line which you can call in and listen to the livestreaming worship services. So if you don't have a computer or would rather just listen, call in on 1-(833) 579 - 2830. We are working on improving the quality of this experience. Please pass this number to your friends without computers.

We will continue to post recordings of the services each week on our website and Facebook page. Stay tuned for more information as we go forward. We pray for everyone to stay safe and healthy.

Your giving is very important to continuing our missions as always. You can give electronically using the give button on the website ([www.gracelutheranstpaul.fyi](http://www.gracelutheranstpaul.fyi)), mail it in to the church (1730 Old Hudson Road, St. Paul 55106) or place in the offering at worship on Sunday.

The office hours are M-Thurs, 9:30-1:30. Feel free to call the church (651-774-9617) with any questions, prayers, or requests for help.

Upcoming: May 18 Spring Rhubarb Festival & Brunch!  
May 26 Memorial Day  
June 1 Graduate Recognition Sunday

Sound & Video System - The upgrade in the Tower rooms is complete and the new system in the Sanctuary has been installed!! We are currently at \$24,955.00 including the SGM gifts. Please label any gifts for the Sound System so that they get to the right place. Thank you!! (Total cost of the Sound System was \$86,981.48)



Monday, May 12– Sunday, May 18, 2025

Monday, May 12 10 am Missions Committee  
1:30 pm Business Mgmt Comm.

Tuesday, May 13 1 pm Worship Comm + Hymn Planning  
6:00 pm Property Mgmt Comm  
6:30 pm Comm. Conn. Comm. (virtual)

Wednesday, May 14 10-12 - Coffee and Conversation

Sunday, May 18 9:30 am Worship New Members  
Live streamed and recorded  
Phone in line 1-(833) 579 -2830  
10:45 am Rhubarb Festival Brunch,  
Bake Sale & 'Live' auction  
10:45 am Last day of Sunday School

Sunday School question of the week -

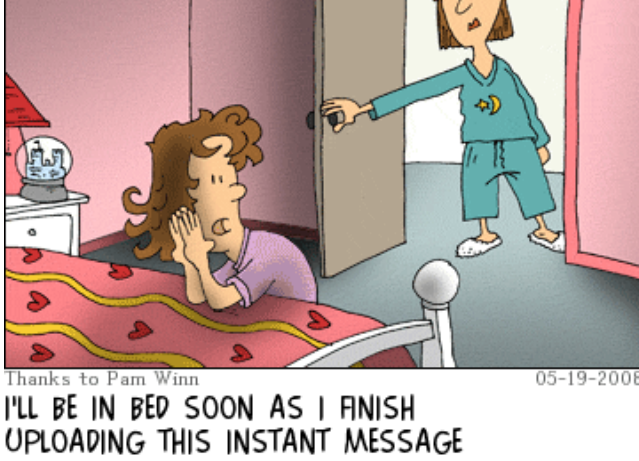
What was given to the disciples and all of us after Jesus ascended into heaven?

Answer from last week-

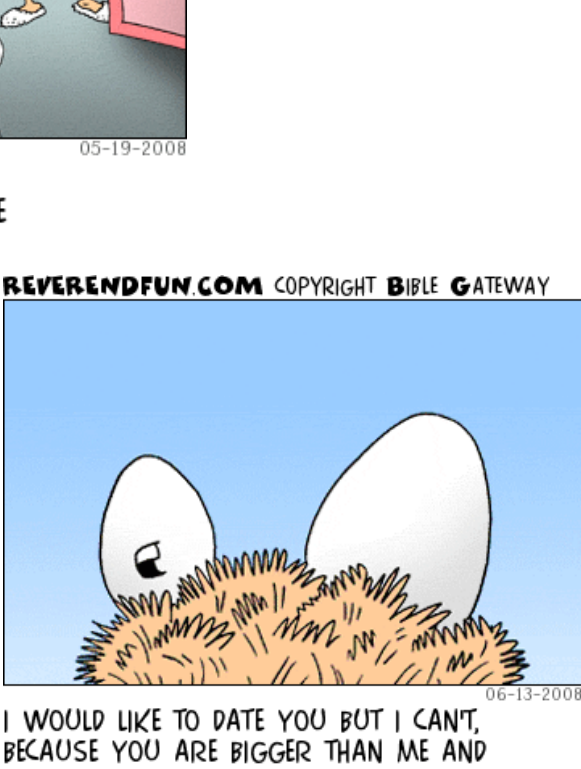
40 days

Church Chuckles

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Thanks to Pam Winn 05-19-2008  
I'LL BE IN BED SOON AS I FINISH  
UPLOADING THIS INSTANT MESSAGE



06-13-2008  
I WOULD LIKE TO DATE YOU BUT I CAN'T,  
BECAUSE YOU ARE BIGGER THAN ME  
THAT WOULD MAKE US UNEQUALLY YOKED



(See Genesis 37:3-36)  
JOSEPH!!!

05-05-2014