



# Early Church Problem Solving

Disagreements between church members have arisen since the Church's beginning. However through open and respectful discussion, problems can be solved.

Complete the account below, based on Acts 15:1-21, that describes an early conflict and its resolution.

- Jesus and his first disciples were \_\_\_\_\_.
- After Jesus' death, Gentiles learned about his ways and wanted to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Some converted Jews were teaching that Gentiles could be baptized only if they agreed to follow \_\_\_\_\_.
- Paul and \_\_\_\_\_ wanted to allow Gentiles to follow the Gospel.
- Apostles and \_\_\_\_\_ met at the Council of \_\_\_\_\_ to settle this question.
- From his experience with Cornelius, a Gentile, \_\_\_\_\_ argued that the \_\_\_\_\_ is sent to Jews and \_\_\_\_\_ alike.
- The apostle \_\_\_\_\_ suggested that the Gentiles be included, but told to avoid \_\_\_\_\_, unlawful \_\_\_\_\_, the meat of strangled animals, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- In the year 51, the Council agreed that the \_\_\_\_\_ would be open to all people, it would be \_\_\_\_\_.





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Complete the account below, based on Acts 15:1-21, that describes an early conflict and its resolution.

- Jesus and his first disciples were Jews.
- After Jesus' death, Gentiles learned about his ways and wanted to be baptized.
- Some converted Jews were teaching that Gentiles could be baptized only if they agreed to follow Mosaic Law.
- Paul and Barnabas wanted to allow Gentiles to follow the Gospel.
- Apostles and presbyters met at the Council of Jerusalem to settle this question.
- From his experience with Cornelius, a Gentile, Peter argued that the Holy Spirit is sent to Jews and Gentiles alike.
- The apostle James suggested that the Gentiles be included, but told to avoid idols, unlawful marriage, the meat of strangled animals, and blood.
- In the year 51, the Council agreed that the Church would be open to all people, it would be catholic.



**Parents, Catechists, Teachers:** This story about the Council of Jerusalem teaches important lessons about being Catholic. There is room for disagreement among present-day church members, but these disagreements should not affect our call by Christ to love, respect, and live in peace with all our neighbors. Discuss this with your young person.