



# ASPEN SMALL GROUP

## Aspen Group Questions

Week of May 19, 2019

### Opening Question:

Share a time when you had to make a major decision. How did you decide what direction to go?

**Read:** Acts 11:1-18

**Sermon Response:** What message from the sermon stayed with you?

### Discussion Questions

1. What was Paul reporting to the Jerusalem council about?
2. Why do was he telling them?
3. Why was he being criticized by the “circumcision party”?
4. What’s at stake here for the church? Why was it such a difficult decision to determine if Gentiles could be included?
5. What is the Holy Spirit doing in the church at that time?
6. In general what does the Holy Spirit do? *For help here’s what Luther says in our small catechism “I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—mine and those of all believers. on the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.*
7. How does Peter and the council decide that it is in fact the work of the Holy Spirit?
8. What do you think the Holy Spirit is up to today in the life of First Lutheran?
9. How can we find out or test if something is from God?  
How can we position ourselves to recognize the work of the Spirit?

### Make it Personal

1. What kinds of new things is the Holy Spirit doing in your life? In what ways would you like your Christian faith to be more mature in the next two years?

### Share Highs and Lows since you last met

### Pray

