

How Not To Read The Bible

DISCUSSION GUIDE | April 19, 2026

BIG IDEA

Jesus' new covenant replaced the covenant given at Sinai as the way God's people relate to Him.

Message title: Brand New

Scripture reading: Acts 15:1-31NIV

As the early church began to form, many Jewish Christians held tightly to their religious traditions. Some even argued that because Jesus was Jewish, anyone who wanted to follow Him had to become Jewish first. But that completely missed the point of what Jesus had come to do.

- 1. Have you ever encountered a Bible passage that confused or discouraged you because you weren't sure whether it applied to you? What was it?*
- 2. How does the idea that "Though all of the Bible was written for you, not all of the Bible was written to you" change how you read the Bible?*
- 3. Why do you think the early church struggled so much with blending the Old Covenant and the New Covenant?*
- 4. Why do you think unity mattered enough that the Jerusalem Council asked Gentiles to make voluntary concessions?*
- 5. Where do modern Christians sometimes still "blend the covenants" without realizing it?*

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

This week, read the book of Galatians. Look specifically for what Paul said about law vs. grace, what he warned happens when we add rules to faith in Jesus, and how he defines the basis of our relationship with God