

The Jerusalem Council (#33)

Acts 15:1-35
March 8, 2009

Dealing with Differences

- The problem
- The solution

Consensus Decision Making

- The decision process
- The final decision

Four Prohibitions for Gentile Christians

- Abstain from food sacrificed to idols
- Don't eat blood
- Don't eat animals that have been strangled
- Avoid sexual immorality

What Have We Learned?

- How consensus decisions work

How Consensus Decisions Work

- There was spirited debate
- Respected leaders summarized the issues
- They sought the leading of the Holy Spirit
- James stated the final decision
- The decision represented a compromise
- They all agreed to support the decision

What Have We Learned?

- How consensus decisions work
- How to maintain church unity

How to Maintain Church Unity

- They had a scriptural foundation
- They were willing to compromise
- Those in power were committed to stand up for the “other” group
- The leaders were willing to risk criticism
- They had a heart for the Gospel
- They were willing to give up their rights
- They were diplomatic

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Additional Information

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