



## Introduction

Acts 15 describes a discussion between the apostles and the Christians who were strict Pharisees before coming to Jesus. It's performance vs. grace. Religion vs. Grace. It would appear that the majority of western Christianity is still "religion minded" rather than "gospel minded". Which side are we on?

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May 13th 2012

**Acts 15:1-11**

**"Gospel Minded"**

*Community Group Notes*

## Explanation

Read **Acts 15:1-11**, **Gal 3:1**, **Matt 11:27-28** and choose a FEW discussion questions from the list below:

**Religion = I WORK HARD THEREFORE I AM ACCEPTED**

**Gospel = I AM ACCEPTED THEREFORE I WORK HARD**

- In what ways does our culture show that it is 'religious' (even if they do not profess a faith) according to the definition above?
- In what ways do we cover up what is actually going on in order to be accepted?

### Acts 11:1-11

- Why was this a significant discussion in regard to the future of the church?
- For those who heard the sermon – why is a yoke a significant symbol to the Jews? (discipleship)
- Paul describes religion as a 'yoke' that is heavy to bear– why?

### Matt 11:27-28

- If religion's heavy yoke is all about performing to be accepted, how is Jesus' yoke (the gospel) freeing?
- As Christians what is our motivation to do what is right and holy if we should not be working to be accepted? (think of your own children).
- How does being religious lead to being judgemental?
- How does knowing you are saved by grace lead to humility and confidence?

**"God is not in love with a better version of you"**