Dear All,

This week we look follow what happens as the early Jewish church spreads and starts to include gentiles into their community. We are in a whole new kind of literature!

You will find the video link HERE or here: http://bit.ly/3URHBWw

## **Optional Questions:**

- 1. What did you hear that was new or that stirred up questions for you?
- 2. How would you explain the purpose and format of the New Testament letters in your own words?
- 3. Glance through the letters included in the New Testament. Which ones are you familiar with and which seem less known?

## **Additional Readings:**

- 1. If you identified some of the letters in the New Testament that are not familiar to you, then take some time this week to read and ponder those letters.
- 2. Read 1 and 2 Peter. Can you identify how these are different? Do they seem like the same author? How would you describe the "personality" of these two letters?

## **Additional Resources:**

- 1. There are several podcast episodes with Israel Bible Center. I talked with scholars on the complicated messages in Paul's writings. Dig into Romans in a three part series: <u>Part 1</u>, <u>Part 2</u>, <u>Part 3</u>
- 2. More podcasts on how a single author can have very different sounding letters written to different audiences. Context Matters! Part 1, Part 2