



**Title** | Christians in Conflict  
**Series** | The Church That Changed the World  
**Text** | Acts 15:36-41  
**By** | Bob Kerrey  
**Date** | August 15, 2021

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## Sermon Notes

**Acts 15:36** And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” **37** Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. **38** But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. **39** And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, **40** but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. **41** And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. *ESV*

### Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

**Acts 15:39** And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other... *ESV*

## **For Reflection and Application:**

### **Monday:**

Read Acts 15:36-41. What is the nature of the disagreement between Paul and Barnabas? Who do you think is right?

### **Tuesday:**

In Acts 15:36-41, to what extent would you say Paul and Barnabas resolved their conflict? Was it a healthy exchange and outcome? Is there a problem with disagreeing? Is there a problem with the way they disagreed?

### **Wednesday:**

From Acts 15:36-41, what effect do you think the separation had on Paul? On Barnabas? On John Mark? On the church in Antioch?

### **Thursday:**

If Paul and Barnabas can fall into a disagreement (e.g., Acts 15:36-41), what does that suggest about our disagreements? In what specific ways can we avoid letting a disagreement get the best of us?

### **Friday:**

We don't have conclusive details, but we have some evidence that the interpersonal conflicts in Acts 15:36-41 may have eventually been resolved. Read 1 Corinthians 9:6, Colossians 4:10, and 2 Timothy 4:11—all written after the incident in Acts 15:36-41. What clues do you find in these verses?

### **Daily Prayer:**

Lord, when I find myself in a disagreement, give me your wisdom and strength to navigate it in a Christlike way, kindly seeking to understand, being open to options, not giving up on resolution too soon. May my disagreements not get the best of me, but instead bring out the best in me. Amen.