

# Sent Out

A SERIES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

**Fresh Start - Acts 15:36-41**

“When Christians meet...their purpose is not — or should not be — to ascertain what is the mind of the majority, but what is the mind of the Holy Spirit — something which may be quite different.”

-- Margaret Thatcher  
Former British Prime Minister

# Messes in Community – Part 2

*“They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.” Acts 15:39 NIV*



# Messes in Community – Part 2

*“Some time later, Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.”*

*<sup>37</sup> “Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, <sup>38</sup> but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.” Acts 15:36-38 NIV*

# Messes in Community – Part 2

*“Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,<sup>40</sup> but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord.<sup>41</sup> He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.” Acts 15:39-41 NIV*

# Messes in Community – Part 2

Good and godly people disagree with each other

## Two perspectives

Paul: “What can they do for God’s work?”

Barnabas: “What can God’s work do for them?”

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Good and godly people disagree with each other

## Two perspectives

Paul: “What can they do for God’s work?”

Barnabas: “What can God’s work do for them?”

Paroxysm – “sudden and violent outburst”

# 1. The Story's Inclusion

Conflict is a reality – even in the church





## 2. The Stance of the Church



The Controversy stayed focused on the issue

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The Controversy stayed focused on the issue

Paul and Barnabas were “*commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord.*” Acts 15:40 NIV

# 3. The Holy Spirit's Acceptance



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**Cheap Grace:** is the justification of sin instead of the justification of the sinner

We all sin – God is able to cope with your sin

4. People come to Christ  
because of Christ



## 4. People come to Christ because of Christ



“If God had to depend on perfect people to accomplish His work, He would never ever get anything done. Our limitations and imperfections are good reasons for us to depend on the grace of God, for our sufficiency is from Him alone.”

-- Warren Wiersbe



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