



Small Group Study Questions

Sermon on May 21st, 2023

Acts 15:36-41(NASB)

36 After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let's return and visit the brothers and sisters in every city in which we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are." 37 Barnabas wanted to take John, called Mark, along with them also. 38 But Paul was of the opinion that they should not take along with them this man who had deserted them [a]in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. 39 Now it turned into such a sharp disagreement that they separated from one another, and Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. 40 But Paul chose Silas, and left after being entrusted by the brothers to the grace of the Lord. 41 And he was traveling through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

What does unity look like? Are there wrong ways that some people believe unity looks like?

Are disagreements among Christians good? If yes, in what way?

To remind yourself where we are in the narrative, recount Acts 15 especially verses 30-35.

Read Acts 15:36

Why would Paul want to go see these people again?

Why would it be important for Paul and Barnabas to visit them again?

Read Acts 15:37-38

For reference, Acts 13:13 gives us the only place that talks about John's departure from their first journey. What's Paul's big deal about John Mark?

Barnabas wants to bring John along. When another believer has done you wrong, how quickly are you to forgive? Would you bring John Mark along for your next missionary journey?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Acts 15:39-41

Is this shocking that Paul and Barnabas would split ways? Why or why not?

Paul does not allow the disagreement to deter him from his mission. How was he able to do this? Why is it when Christian groups disagree, that sometimes it hurts ministry?

How can this group help disagreements between Christians not be detrimental to their witness for Christ?

TAKING IT HOME

PRAYER REQUEST

