

Acts: O Church, Arise!
July 5, 2026 – Acts 15:36 – 16:5
A Difference of Opinion
Sermon by Dave Burrill

Message for Today – Different views of circumstances are inevitable. But God’s work will prevail, and He will make use of people as He pleases

Have you had connection with classical or contemporary Christian biography?

What individuals? What impact have they had on your life?

Major Point 1: Paul and Barnabas were long-time, battle-tested co-workers.

Major Point 2: Luke does not assign blame to either party in this dispute – God communicating through silence.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Major point 3 – Workers in the ministry increased due to the disagreement

Major point 4 – Paul continued to be a leader who could make hard decisions.

Non-circumcision of Titus vs. circumcision of Timothy

Conclusion: Despite disagreements, the Lord’s work went forward.

Reflections
Acts 15:36 – 16:5

Hear the Word

1. What is this passage telling me about who God is (His character, actions, attributes, Word)?
2. What does it tell me about Christian difference in opinion?
3. Why do you think Luke decided to leave any sort of blame out of his report on this incident?
4. What themes do I see here, and how do any of those connect with what I am currently facing?
5. How does this passage point me to Jesus, and help me to see the gospel more clearly?

Do the Word

1. How do my actions, thoughts, words, or emotions need to change in light of this passage?
2. What evidence of God’s work in my life do I need to thank and praise Him for?
3. How does my prayer life need to change as a result of this?
4. Do I see any other way that this should impact my worship of God?

Next Week: Acts 16:6 – 10