

# Seventeen Reasons for Fact-Based Joy: A Study In Philippians

## *Reason 14: The Joy of Managing Church Conflict*

Philippians 4:1–4

The Lord's Day Morning - February 9, 2020

Church conflict is often a positive sign that people care about the church and the mission Jesus gave us. They are invested in the ministry and have strong feelings about what ought to be done and how to do it. But unmanaged conflict can soon divide a church, and that division decreases the level of joy. A happy church is not a church without conflict, but a church with conflict that is managed well. All we know about the conflict described in this text is that it is between two significant women in the church. In the process of managing this growing threat to family unity, Paul also reveals some important aspects about the relationship between men and women in the church.

1. Be proactive instead of waiting until it \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Appeal first to proven love instead of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Be fair and impartial instead of showing \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Involve only trusted mediators instead of \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Honor and value the contributions of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Remind them that God sovereignly put us together  
\_\_\_\_\_.