

## **RESOLVING CONFLICT**

### **Acts 15:1-29**

#### **1. Expect it**

*And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.” (1)*

#### **2. Deal with it**

*Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem... (2)*

#### **3. Get a mediator**

*... they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question. (2)*

#### **4. Don't drag others into the drama**

*So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren. (3)*

#### **5. Listen**

*Now the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter. And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them... (6-7)*

*Then all the multitude kept silent and listened... (12)*

*And after they had become silent, James answered, saying... (13)*

#### **6. Look to the Bible for answers**

*And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:  
'After this I will return  
And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down;  
I will rebuild its ruins,  
And I will set it up;  
So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord,*

*Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name,  
Says the Lord who does all these things.'* (15-17)

### **7. Compromise where you can; stand firm on the truth**

*Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood. (19-20)*