

A SHARP DISAGREEMENT

ACTS 15:36-16:5 // PASTOR LEO KLUS

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My best preparation for conflict in the church: Stay the course by living “on mission” (15:36)...Know that God will teach and surprise us from conflict (15:37-41)...Pray that God brings gospel-centered people into our lives (16:1-5).

GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1. Conflict in the church can lead to great amounts of pain, discouragement, and doubt whether about the extent of continued personal involvement or even concerning our faith.**
 - Have you ever found yourself in a similar type of situation?
 - Why is it important for us to be prepared prior to dealing with disagreement and controversy within the church?
- 2. Because Paul lived a gospel-centered life, used his gifts for Christian community, and lived his life in light of eternity, he made it a priority to return and visit the believers who came to faith during their first journey to help them grow.**
 - In which of these 3 areas do I need to reorient myself so that I am more on mission and becoming more passionate for Jesus?
 - Why is it so important for us to stay the course and remain on mission, especially when we are tired or lacking focus?
- 3. God can overcome the conflict we create in the church.**
 - As we navigate through disagreement, how can we maintain unity and avoid moving disputes into sinful territory?
 - Do we consider how God will often take the mess we contributed so that he can advance his kingdom from it?
 - How much does considering this truth humble us and change our perspective of the issues we face?
- 4. Despite this conflict, God brought new ministry partners into his life (Silas and Timothy) to assist and strengthen him.**
 - Why do we need gospel-centered people in our lives?
 - Take some time to thank God for the people who are right alongside you that he brings in your life, and pray for them.