

Follow Me As I Follow Christ - A Journey with Paul

“The Day Two Missionaries Disagreed” David Owens

Scripture Reading: Col. 3:12-14; Sermon covers: Acts 15:35-41 7.3.16

Introduction:

- A. Don't you wish _____ resolution was as easy as the boys in the opening story?
- B. God doesn't want His people to be characterized by conflict and _____.
- C. God wants His people to be characterized by _____ and _____ (Jn. 17).
- D. When God paints portraits of His servants in the Scriptures, He resists airbrushing away all the _____ and _____.

I. The Story—Acts 15:35-41

- A. During a lengthy rest-and-recovery period after the first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas were summoned to Jerusalem for the Jerusalem _____.
- B. It was decided that Gentiles would not be required to be _____ and follow the _____.
- C. _____ suggested that they return to the places they had visited on their first missionary journey.
- D. The idea of going on the trip wasn't the problem, their conflict was about _____ would _____ them.
- E. Things to remember in disagreements:
 - 1. In every disagreement, there may be one _____, but there can be several _____.
 - 2. In most disagreements, each side has _____.
 - 3. In heated disagreements, someone usually gets _____.
- F. Let's try to be _____ and understand both sides of the conflict between Paul and Barnabas.
- G. The story ends with the pair who just two chapters ago enjoyed the pleasure of partnership, have now _____ ways and headed in _____ directions.
- H. I wish the conflict had ended differently, because it feels like a victory for _____.
- I. However, I'm encouraged by the fact that though Satan may _____, God can _____.

II. The Application

- A. Strategies to employ in a disagreement:
 - 1. When in a disagreement, work hard to see the other _____ of _____.
 - 2. When both sides have validity, seek a wise _____.
 - 3. When conflict persists, care enough to _____ it through rather than _____ out.
 - 4. When it cannot be resolved, graciously agree to _____ with being _____.

Answer Key: Intro.A. conflict. B. division. C. peace, unity. D. warts, blemishes. I.A. Council. I.B. Circumcised, Law. I.C. Paul. I.D. Who, accompany. I.E.1. issue, viewpoints. I.E.2. validity. I.E.3. hurt. I.F. neutral. I.G. parted, opposite. I.H. Satan. I.I. divide, multiply. II.A.1. point, view. II.A.2. compromise. II.A.3. work, walk. II.A.4. disagree, disagreeable.