

When We Disagree (11/19/23)

Main Verses: Acts 15:36-41

Key Verses: Acts 15:39-40

'Takeaway': How reassuring to know that even when we disagree with one another, God is still at work through his mission-focused people.

Getting Started: Have you ever had a disagreement with a friend? What happened?



READ Acts 15:36-41 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What is a disagreement?
- Who had a disagreement in this passage?
- How did they resolve it?

Elementary:

- Who did Barnabas and Paul disagree about?
- Why did they have the disagreement? (What had Mark done? vs. 38)
- How did they resolve it?
- How did their disagreement affect God's plan and purpose?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses :

Toddler/PreK:

- Barnabas and Paul disagreed about Mark.
- They resolved it by splitting up into two groups - Barnabas / Mark and Paul / Silas.
- God is never caught off guard or surprised by our disagreements.
- God's plan (word) and purpose cannot be swayed. He used both groups to further the spread of the gospel.

Elementary:

- Barnabas and Paul disagreed about Mark.
- Paul did not want to take Mark because he had previously withdrawn from them and not worked with them.
- They resolved it by splitting up into two groups - Barnabas / Mark and Paul / Silas.
- God is never caught off guard or surprised by our disagreements.
- God's plan (word) and purpose cannot be swayed. He used both groups to further the spread of the gospel.

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, and thank him that his plan and purpose always prevails. Ask God to help you when you disagree with someone. Thank him that he still works in and through the church, even when we struggle with one another. Ask God to help you to slow down, listen, and respond in a way that honors and pleases him.

Elementary) Talk to God, thanking him that his plans and purposes always prevail. Thank him that our disagreements never catch him by surprise, but are used by him for his purpose and for our growth. Ask God to help you when you're having a disagreement to slow down and respond in a way that honors and pleases Him.