

Dealing with Conflict in the Church
Acts 15:22-41
June 6, 2021

We should not have conflict in the church.

Why does conflict arise within the church?

This conflict concerned the inclusion of the Gentiles into the Church.

Why did Paul and Barnabas separate?

What was the decision made that ended the conflict?

The Gospel was defended, and Christian love was promoted.

How They Communicate the Decision

They send a pastoral delegation - Judas and Silas.

They send a letter.

Addresses them as brothers.

Some from us troubled you

They Commend Paul and Barnabas.

It seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us.

In your conflicts look first to where you might be wrong.

If you are wrong, admit it.

This decision cost the Jerusalem Church something.

Reaction by the Church

Conflict, when handled rightly, leads to growth and encouragement.

Paul and Barnabas disagree over John Mark.

It was a sharp disagreement.

Later, Paul had good words for both Barnabas and John Mark.

Barnabas - 1 Corinthians 9:6; 2 Corinthians 8:18-19.

John Mark - Colossians 4:10; 2 Timothy 4:11

Christians can have conflict, and Christians can resolve conflict.

In a sinful world we will have conflict.

We are to strive to follow the Holy Spirit in conflict.