

## MANAGING YOUR CONFLICTS

### At The Crossroads – Part 2

May 25, 2014

**Jeremiah 6:16 (NIV)** *“This is what the Lord says: ‘Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.’ ”*

#### Roadblock #2: CONFLICT

**If you value people, relationships and peace,  
you want a healthy way to approach conflict.**

**Acts 15:36-38 (NLT)** *“After some time Paul said to Barnabas, ‘Let’s go back and visit each city where we previously preached the word of the Lord, to see how the new believers are doing.’ ”*

<sup>37</sup>*Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark.*

<sup>38</sup>*But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in their work.”*

**Acts 13:13 (NLT)** *“Paul and his companions then left Paphos by ship for Pamphylia, landing at the port town of Perga. There John Mark left them and returned to Jerusalem.”*

**Acts 15:39-41 (NLT)** *“Their disagreement was so sharp that they separated. Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus. <sup>40</sup> Paul chose Silas, and as he left, the believers entrusted him to the Lord’s gracious care. <sup>41</sup> Then he traveled throughout Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches there.”*

**Could it be that this... “Who is right?” question is the reason we have so much conflict and so little peace?**

**Conflicts can be peaceful and honor God when we disagree without being disagreeable.**

## HOW TO MANAGE CONFLICT...

### 1. EXPECT God to do something great!

**John 5:17 (NIV)** *“Jesus said to them, ‘My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I too am working.’ ”*

### 2. REJECT the world’s way of responding.

**Romans 12:18 (NLT)** *“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”*

### 3. FORGIVE before engaging in conversation.

**Matthew 6:14-15 (NLT)** *“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”*

**Forgiving other people is not OPTIONAL  
for a follower of Christ!**

**Proverbs 19:11 (NIV)** *“A person’s wisdom yields patience; it is to one’s glory to overlook an offense.”*

### 4. WORK TOWARD a resolution without escalation.

**Colossians 3:13 (NLT)** *“Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.”*

**Conflict is inevitable... MISERY is optional.**

**If you choose peace, God wins!**

**2 Timothy 4:11 (NLT)** *“Only Luke is with me. Bring Mark with you when you come, for he will be helpful to me in my ministry.”*