

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY · STUDY SHEET

Movement III · Conflicting Desires

The Sharp Contention

The series question: "*And who is my neighbor?*" (Luke 10:29)

ACTS 15:36 And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, Indeed, Returning, let us look after our brothers throughout every city in which we proclaimed the Word of the Lord, how they have fared.

37 But Barnabas purposed to take John with them, the one being called Mark.

38 But Paul thought it fitting, he having withdrawn from them from Pamphylia, and not going with them to the work, not to take this one with them.

39 Therefore sharp contention happened, so as to be separated them from each other. And taking Mark, Barnabas sailed away to Cyprus.

40 But choosing Silas, Paul went out, being given over to the grace of God by the brothers,

READ ALONG: Acts 15:36–40; 2 Timothy 4:11 (also Colossians 4:10)

Follow along

1. What exactly do Paul and Barnabas disagree about?

2. What happens after they separate?

3. What had Barnabas done for Paul earlier (Acts 9:27)?

4. Have you parted ways with someone where both of you had a point?

5. Why does Scripture leave this disagreement unresolved for so long?

6. Can a split be honest without one side being the villain?

7. Who did you write off who later proved useful?

Leave them with

THE ONE QUESTION

Who is your Mark?

- 1. What would it take for you to say they are useful to you?
- 2. What split in your life is still waiting for its 2 Timothy 4:11?

The empty chair. Every week one chair at our table stays empty. It is for the person you would never invite.

Notes