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Encourage Yourself: Disagreements That Separate

Ephesians 4:2-3 - Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. ³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

There Will Be Times Of Disagreement When Loving Others

Acts 13:2-5, 13 - One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them." ³ So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way. ⁴ So Barnabas and Saul were sent out by the Holy Spirit. They went down to the seaport of Seleucia and then sailed for the island of Cyprus. ⁵ There, in the town of Salamis, they went to the Jewish synagogues and preached the word of God. John Mark went with them as their assistant... ¹³ 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 15:36-41 - 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." ³⁷ Barnabas agreed and wanted to take along John Mark. ³⁸ But Paul disagreed strongly, since John Mark had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in their work. ³⁹ Their disagreement was so sharp that they separated. Barnabas took John Mark with him and sailed for Cyprus. ⁴⁰ Paul chose Silas, and as he left, the believers entrusted him to the Lord's gracious care. ⁴¹ Then he traveled throughout Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches there.

God Workers May Change, But His Work Will Always Moves Forward

<u>2 Corinthians 3:5</u> - It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God.

Paul And Barnabas Continued To Depend On God

Romans 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ESV

- 1) Disagreements Don't Have To Sever Relationships Forever.
- 2) The Mission Must Stay Bigger Than The Conflict.