



# A *rise* Ω

reaching all people



WEEK 28 • AUG 24

## **NORTHSHORE'S COMPELLING STATEMENT**

Hope changes everything.

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## **ICE BREAKER**

What is something in life that you will not compromise on?

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## **BACKGROUND**

The text this week shows that even within the church and ministry there are sometimes disagreements. Barnabas and Paul are preparing to revisit the churches from the first missionary journey. Barnabas wants to bring John Mark along, but Paul objected. Both men likely had good reasons. Paul thought it best to not invite someone who had departed early from the last journey. Barnabas was the cousin of John Mark, and it would have made sense that the “son of encouragement” would want to give him another chance.

This was a serious matter. The term used in verse 39 is “paroxysmos” in Greek or “sharp disagreement” for our text. This means “a state of irritation expressed in argument”. Both men became so irritated that they parted ways, Paul with Silas and Barnabas with John Mark. But as always God worked for the good of all things and now there were two teams headed to different areas. Though we don’t see Barnabas and John Mark again in the book of Acts, Paul does speak well of them in later letters.

## **REVIEW**

What was meaningful from the above context or the sermon from last Sunday?



**KEY VERSES:** Acts 15:39-40

*And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.*

**READ:** Acts 15:36-41



**HEAD LEVEL:** *What does it say? These help us to examine what the Word tells us.*

1. Where did John Mark leave Paul on the first journey? Why do you think he left?
2. What happened just before Paul and Silas departed?


**DEEPER DISCOVERY:**

What were the cities and areas that Paul visited on the first missionary journey?  
How do these match up to the churches he visited on the second journey?  
What were some of the reasons for the difference in route and stops?




**HEART LEVEL:** *What does it mean? These questions help us shape our beliefs around the objective truth of God's word.*

1. Do you think this disagreement was handled well? Explain.
2. Was Paul correct in not wanting to give John Mark another chance? Explain.

 **HANDS LEVEL:** *What does it mean to me? These questions help us commit to live out the truth in our everyday lives and commit to potential next steps.*

1. What insight does this passage give us into handling disagreements within our church?
2. While we don't see how, we know that the relationship between Paul and Barnabas was restored. How can we work to restore broken relationships within our congregation? If there is someone who you have parted ways with, how will you begin to bridge the gap?

 **MEMORY VERSE:** Romans 8:28  
*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

*(Please remember that these requests are confidential and need to stay within the group.)*