

“Porcupine Christians” ***Acts 15:12-35***

1. Spiritual maturity does not _____ personality _____.
2. Our personality traits can cause us to _____.
 - a. Our greatest _____ are often the area for our greatest _____.
 - b. we should not put too much trust in _____, but in _____.
3. Unity does not mean that we all have to _____ with one another.
4. We should not let personality clashes cause us to _____ the Lord.

When personalities clash, ask:

1. What is the _____ of the difficulty?
2. Is there an important _____ principle at stake?
3. What is the Lord trying to _____ through this?
4. Would the cause of _____ be furthered or hindered by my continuing to work closely with this person?

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Questions for the Week

1. Why do you think personality clashes can still happen between spiritually mature Christians like Paul and Barnabas? What does this teach us about human nature and sanctification?
2. How can we distinguish between a true doctrinal issue and a simple personality difference? Why is that distinction important in the church?
3. In what ways can our greatest strengths also become weaknesses if we are not walking in humility and love?
4. Have you ever experienced a conflict with another believer that God later used to grow you spiritually? What Christlike qualities was He developing in you through that situation?
5. What practical steps can Christians take to preserve unity in the church even when they disagree on non-essential matters?
6. Is there a relationship right now where you need to pursue forgiveness, reconciliation, patience, or greater understanding for the sake of Christ and His church? What would obedience look like this week?

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