

MAY 13-17

DEAL WITH IT!

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Conflict in the church is nothing new. But as Christians, shouldn't we all get along? Well, ideally yes; but we're still humans with differing viewpoints and opinions. In his letter to the church in Philippi, the apostle Paul lovingly spells out the need for believers there to resolve their conflicts; and in so doing, he offers us practical principles for resolving our conflicts today as well.

Join the *Discover the Word* team to see how and why we should work for the common good.



THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Read Philippians 3:15–4:9. Identify the circumstances of conflict in the passage. Can you relate to these elements in your life?
- Focus on Philippians 3:15–4:1. What is Paul's "big idea" regarding resolving conflict?
- In Philippians 4:4-7, Paul offers specific instructions in the form of several principles that we can all apply to the conflicts we face. Can you name them?
- What do you find most challenging about dealing with the conflicts in your life?
- Philippians 4:1–9 challenges us to put our faith in practice. List some ways this challenge applies to your life.



CHALLENGE

As you review Paul's encouragement to deal with conflicts, can you identify an area in your life relationships that God is nudging you to address by putting these principles into practice?



COMMIT TO MEMORY

"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!"
(Philippians 4:1).



PRAYER

Father, thank You for this example from Scripture that we can identify with today. Help me put aside my personal interests and work together with my fellow believers for the sake of the gospel. Amen.