

Shoulder to Shoulder
Bible Study
Lesson 4

I Don't Know If I Like My Pastor

A Bible Study Series of The Mt. Zion Church
We Have the Vision to be a LEARNING Church!
We are Rooted in Christ and Reaching the One!

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Book: *Shoulder to Shoulder: Strengthening Your Church
by Supporting Your Pastor*

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Chapter 4 teaches us that there are times of conflict.
The question is what do we do when we do not have a resolution?
Acts 15:36-42

#1. We must find the poison. Where is the real issue?

#2. Know the facts...know your own facts about you... Is it about you or your church growth and influence?

- Attacking anyone in the church is attacking your own body. Attacking your pastor is inviting a fight directly with God.
- I Samuel 26. David protects Saul even though he was wrong. David rebukes Amber for putting the King at risk. Saul sees his wrong. David puts the issue at God's feet.

#3. Preference vs. Principles

1. Is your concern one of preference? i.e. you want blue walls versus cream. You like one style of usher uniform versus another.
 2. What are the principles you stand on? Are they biblical?
 3. If your pastor stands on biblical principles, what would cause you not to follow?
 - A. I would not follow because....."This answer is where God needs to heal you and grow you."
- A few basic principles of The Mount:
1. We believe The Word of God as the authority of who we are and what we do.
 2. We believe in the Trinity...God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
 3. We believe Jesus lived, died, was resurrected, and will return in victory as described in the Bible.
 4. We believe there is only one way to atone for sin which is through Jesus' substitution sacrifice on the cross and by mankind accepting Jesus as Lord.
 5. We believe that the Pastor is the authority over the church, placed by God, with the responsibility of caring for God's people.

#4. Do you have truth in love as a way of addressing issues?

Ephesians 4:15

- Are you seeking reconciliation?
1. Acknowledge you have been hurt
 2. Hebrews 13:17 ¹⁷ Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you

- Choosing to submit to authority has benefits
 - A. Keeping watch over you.
 - B. Protecting you because some things I see and you do not
 - C. I have been given responsibility that I must account for

#5. Do you pray for specific issues of your church?

1. Prayer is an acknowledgement that the issue is bigger than you.
2. Prayer acknowledges that God is in control.
3. Prayer ensures that you are in order in terms of authority at church.
4. Prayer reminds you that it is not your church in the first place. It is God's.



What is our next step based on this lesson?