

## Why Can't We Be Friends?

### **Ready:**

“How delightfully good when brothers live together in harmony!” – Psalm 133:1

### **Set**

You've seen it once; you've seen it a thousand times – a team that does not get along does not play well. The missing ingredient is harmony.

In the famous sports movie “Remember the Titans,” head coach Boone aimed to integrate his high school football team. Throughout the film, multiple battles threaten to tear the team apart. They saw real success on the field only when the team came together.

It's also true in real life. Many issues can tear a team apart. In 1971, the year the movie took place, the main problem was racial prejudice – maybe that's still an issue that causes tension on your team. Pause for a minute and think of the main issues driving a wedge between you and your teammates. Maybe the struggle is with you and the coach or just one teammate. How is this tension affecting the team? How is it affecting you personally?

Psalm 133 calls us to rejoice when we live in harmony; we are not meant to have strife with our brothers and sisters. Throughout Scripture, we see Jesus teaching us to find a way to be at peace with those around us. He even goes so far as to ask us to forgive our enemies and find peace with them. (Luke 6:27-30) To continue strife with others is to make your heart hard toward another. It ends up hurting you more than you would think at the moment.

I challenge you to take time this week to flip through Scripture and see how often God calls us to make peace with those around us. In turn, decide today to make peace with the people with whom you are angry.

### **Go**

- Why does harmony matter?
- What stops you from making peace with others? Pride? Anger?
- Why do you think Jesus cared about peace?

### **Workout**

Romans 12:16

1 Peter 3:9

### **Overtime**

“God of Peace, You are the standard for love and harmony; help us look to You for guidance. In our sinful hearts, it’s so easy to harbor hate. Remove it and place a spirit of peace in us. Give us the wisdom to make amends with those we have hurt and take away our pride when we don’t feel like forgiving those who have hurt us. Amen.”



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