



**“I'd start walking your way
You'd start walking mine
We'd meet in the middle
'Neath that old Georgia pine
We'd gain a lot of ground
'Cause we'd both give a little
And there ain't no road too long
When you meet in the middle”
 (“Meet in the Middle” by Diamond Rio)**

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- Is it opinion or truth?
 - Defining terms:
 - Opinion – A belief or judgment that rests on grounds insufficient to produce complete certainty; a personal view
 - Truth – the state or character of being true; exact, accurate; absolute
 - Compromise – A settlement of differences by mutual concessions

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- Is it opinion or truth?
 - Example:
 - Opinion – There should be no separation of fellowship based on teaching – Max Lucado
 - Truth – I John 1:5-7; II John 9-11
 - Is this simply a matter of interpretation? Or is it application of God's word? (Baptism? Elders? Etc...)

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- **Is it opinion or truth?**
 - **Examples:**
 - **Brethren with dangerous teachings vs. harmless opinions**
 - **Modesty – How can I bind where God does not bind? Or vice versa?**
 - **Orderly, proper for the character of one professing godliness**
 - **I Tim. 2:9-10; I Pet. 3:3-6**

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- **With this in mind, how do I study with others?**
 - **Keep an open mind...to a point! It all goes back to God's word! – Acts 17:10-12**
 - **Be willing to change if necessary! – Acts 17:10-12**
 - **Do not make fun or ridicule the beliefs of others – Acts 17:22ff; Acts 14:11**

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- **What's the bottom line?**
 - **We must be true to God's authority, both expressed and implied!**
 - **Matt 28:18-20, Matt. 7:21-23**
 - **We must be willing to work with brethren on things of little consequence**
 - **I Cor. 10:23-24**

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- What's the bottom line?
 - Never, ever, compromise truth for anything, even unity!
 - I John 1:5-7; I John 3:3-5; II John 9-11

Standing for truth vs. compromising on opinion

- **“They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety.”**
 - **Benjamin Franklin, 1775**
- **They who can compromise the Gospel for the sake of unity, deserve neither the Gospel nor the unity that can be obtained in it.**