

The Miracle of Agreement

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: The Power of Agreement

Text: Psalm 133:1

There is something beautiful and spiritual in **oneness**. The relationship between the Godhead, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. The Three in **one**. Three distinct Persons, one God. In complete unity with one another and each completely unique and distinct yet completely inseparable.

When God created marriage, He said that the **two** should become one flesh and what God has **joined** together no man should separate. **Genesis 2:24, Mark 10:7-9, Ephesians 5:31**

God designed us to be in **relationship** with other people. Some are to be close like a husband and wife who become as one. Some are called to be partners with us in business, friendship or family. The Bible describes each Christian as a part of the **family** of God. We are each individual members but TOGETHER we make up the “Body of Christ as a Body of Believers.” Each with our own unique set of gifts, talents, and abilities but all of serving God together for the glory of God. The truth is that we are better together. We are unstoppable when we are in unity and when we are in agreement.

From the very beginning, Satan has worked to sow **division**. His goal has been to divide and conquer. **Matthew 12:25** This is an effective strategy that Christians should be aware of.

In Eden, Satan sowed doubt to cause Adam and Eve to come out of agreement with God by **doubting** His intentions. **Genesis 3:1-12** As soon as Adam and Eve fell out of unity with God, they fell out of agreement with each other. It was every man and woman for themselves.

At Babel, Satan sought to use the miracle principle of unity to lead a **rebellion** against God. We learn that the wrong agreements can put us at odds with God. **Genesis 11:1-9 (NLT)** God understands the principle of agreement and when Satan used it against Him God put a natural barrier of multiple languages. This ensured that people would not come together because they could not come into agreement because they could not communicate or understand one another.

Notice that on the Day of Pentecost God brought the disciple together in one place and united them through the gift of speaking in tongues or other **languages**.

Jesus came to die for individuals, but His cross made miracle-working relationships possible. His cross **reconciles** all divisions. Satan has convinced the world that individualism, self-assertion, and self-interest are the way. In many parts of the world people are separated into the haves and the have nots, the educated elites and the so-called working class. The cross redeems the individual and then reconciles that person with all the redeemed. The cross is the great **equalizer**. **Galatians 3:26-28, Revelation 7:9-10**

The ground is level at the foot of the cross. **James 2:1-9** The Gospel shatters the idea of western individualism. Imagine the freedom this brings to the Hindu at the bottom of the caste system or the outcast who is of mixed race in an Asian nation. The body of Christ brings hope and belonging to the single mother or the person who has known nothing but rejection and abuse. For people who have had no meaningful connections when they come to Christ, this reconciliation to God and to other believers cries out –“ **you belong** ”.

It is in this new level of “agreement that miracles become possible. Jesus teaches us that **connections** count. **John 15:1-8**

- First – we are to **abide** in the vine. We must be connected to Christ or be in agreement with Him.
- Second – our agreement and connection to Christ makes us connected to one another and together we produce more. The blessing comes as we are “ **clustered** ” together. **Isaiah 65:8**

There is something so very pleasant about unity between people and there is something distinctly unpleasant about disunity and **division**. **Psalm 133:1-3**

Notice that God does not just command “a” blessing but **THE** blessing. This Psalm gives a prophetic view of the Church clothed in the garments of the High Priest, with the anointing flowing from head to foot. (Oil is the symbol of the anointing – which is the Person of the Holy Spirit) As the church walks in unity, blessings flow. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit we are literally covered in blessing.

Jesus came to bring reconciliation. Jesus reminds us that unity is so important to Him that our offerings to Him will not have effect until we are reconciled to our brothers. **Matthew 5:23-24** When Jesus prayed for us as His disciples, His prayer was that we would be **unified**. **John 17:20-24** Notice that unity comes before GLORY!

The cross is the great unifier and because of that it releases incredible possibilities. **Romans 5:10-11**

- 1) Unity brings down all walls and releases **peace**. **Ephesians 2:14**
- 2) Unity forges a new humanity with wonderful **possibilities**. **Ephesians 2:15**
- 3) Unity was won by Christ on the cross as He endured all our hostilities against one another. Many times, our religious traditions separate us from one another. If we are not careful, we can allow our own flesh and preferences to cause division. Even Paul and Peter had to deal with this on a personal level so that others could be free in Christ. **Galatians 2:1-20 (NLT)** We must be crucified to divisive behavior toward others.
- 4) Unity gives us **access** to God’s presence. **Ephesians 2:18-21**

- 5) Unity brings the **highest** level of spiritual fullness and power. **Ephesians 2:22**
- 6) Unity means that WE have been given the same ministry that Jesus had, the ministry of **reconciliation**. **2 Corinthians 5:18-20**
- 7) When we are in unity we literally **supply** everything that we need together. It is when we are knit together and joined together that we grow and have strength. **Ephesians 4:16** The reason so many people are weak and that many churches are without power is because they are not knit and joined together in unity. God gives us each individually what we need and since what God gives is always **more** than enough, we have enough to share with others.

The idea of agreement, oneness, unity, and togetherness is woven throughout Scripture and is to be a guiding principle in our lives. Here are several ways that this is to happen:

- The principle of agreement was established in the Old Testament so that as a matter of **law** no one could be convicted, especially of a capital crime, by only one so-called “**eye-witness**”. **Deuteronomy 19:15** In the New Testament this became the standard of dealing with spiritual leaders so that no one could be falsely accused of a thing. **1 Timothy 5:19**
- The Bible says that when we have an offense against someone, we are to first go by ourselves to **resolve** the matter. If we are unable to come to agreement, we are to bring others one or two others with us. **Matthew 18:15-17**
- The principle of agreement was used to uncover any fact or matter to establish the **truth** of a thing. **2 Corinthians 13:1-2** People who are in sin need to be warned and sometimes more than once. There is much false teaching. What is being taught must be authenticated not just an accusation. It must be weighed against the witness of the word of God and exposed and corrected.
- All effort is made easier, and more is done when people **work** together. If one stumbles there is less chance of injury. All of us need encouragement. **Ecclesiastes 4:9-11** This the purpose in a yoke when farming. When you join two horses or two oxen together the work is not only easier it is multiplied. “A load shared is a burden halved.” Everyone knows that you don’t yoke together different types of animals used for different purposes. This is the essence of being unequally yoked.
- In natural and in spiritual battles we are **stronger** and more effective together. **Deuteronomy 32:30-31**
- Jesus made it clear that ministry is better done as a **team**. **Luke 10:1,10:17-19, Mark 16:17-18**

When we as disciples walk in unity and in agreement, we can expect miracles to **follow** us.