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Welcome to Harvest Community Church Series: The Power of Agreement **Text: Galatians 2:20** 

Coming into agreement with God begins with the understanding of how much He <u>loves</u> us. We come into agreement with His love by giving our love and our very <u>life</u> to Him. Our life is no longer our own or all about us. Our life is all about Jesus. Our life is intimately connected and intertwined with God.

❖ When we are in agreement with God, we are no longer outsiders but we are <u>friends</u> with God. <u>John 15:14-15</u> Those who follow the commands of God are in agreement that His ways are all together good, pure and righteous, because God is altogether good, pure and righteous. One of the benefits of being a friend of God is that He lets you in on what He is doing. <u>Amos 3:7</u>

Abraham is known as a friend of God. <u>James 2:23</u> When God was ready to bring judgement on Sodom and Gomorrah, He let Abraham <u>in</u> on His plan. <u>Genesis 18:17-33</u> Can you imagine having a conversation like this with God. Abraham could and did. Friends discuss things. Abraham understood that God is righteous in both judgement and mercy. Notice Abraham's boldness and <u>respect</u> in the way he communicated with God. There was care in the conversation.

- Those who are in agreement with God have <a href="access">access</a>. <a href="Hebrews 4:14-16">Hebrews 4:14-16</a> This is a benefit of life together with God. Under the Old Covenant only the High Priest could access the Holy of Holies. Under the New Covenant we have a <a href="Great">Great</a> High Priest who has given us access to the Throne of Grace. All too often we are seeking the hand of God instead of the face of God. We have access to His <a href="presence">presence</a>. There are unfathomable benefits that are available to us because we are insiders. Has that truth resonated in your spirit man yet? You can come inside to God. <a href="Revelation 3:20-21">Revelation 3:20-21</a> He invites us in to dine with him. This involves both nourishment and conversation. When we get to heaven, we will be invited to sit on Jesus' throne. It doesn't get any more access than that. We ARE both a KING and PRIEST.

  Revelation 5:10, 1 Peter 2:9
- ❖ When we are in agreement with God we have <u>provision</u>. God provides for the needs of those who are close to him. As a parent you do not provide for other families, you provide for your own. This is how God works. <u>Philippians 4:19</u>

Because we have an insider relationship, we have the benefits of <u>connection</u>. We walk under the blessing of the Lord. To understand this blessing we need to look at how God commanded Aaron to bless the children of Israel. <u>Numbers 6:22-27</u> Our identity is as a <u>child</u> of God. We carry His name. (CHRISTian) His name carries unlimited blessing, immunity, protection, provision, God's favor and His presence. <u>Isaiah 45:3,8</u>

- ❖ Being in agreement with God means that we are in <u>covenant</u> relationship. A covenant is an agreement of relationship that is <u>binding</u>. <u>Psalm 25:14</u>
  The Bible is God's covenant and promises to us. As we wait on the Lord and study His Word, He will reveal to us all the covenant promises that we have in Christ Jesus.
  2 Corinthians 1:20, 2 Peter 1:2-4 (NKJV & NLT), Ephesians 3:17-19 (AMP)
- ❖ When we are in agreement with God we are under His <u>covering</u>. Devout Jewish men worship by wearing a talith, or a prayer cloth. This covering is a symbol that they are spending intimate time alone with God.

Our secret place of prayer is like a covering. <a href="Psalm 91:1-4">Psalm 91:1-4</a> God is our <a href="protector">protector</a>. Those who are intimate with God - <a href="abide">abide</a>. To abide means to tarry all night. It speaks of the intimacy of lovers, of husband and wife. It also speaks of the intimacy of family like children who seek refuge and safety in the home of their parents. He is a <a href="caring">caring</a> covering, watching over us carefully and protectively. <a href="Psalm 91:5-7">Psalm 91:5-7</a>, <a href="10-12">10-12</a> With God there is no need to be afraid of the darkness or of things that go bump in the night. <a href="Hebrews 1:13-14">Hebrews 1:13-14</a>

God promises to protect us from the <u>snares</u> and traps of the enemy. We are delivered from things like deception, doubt, darkness, demonic forces, disease, disasters and defeat.

One of the great benefits of covenant is that what takes place in secret will be evident in the <u>open</u>. No one needs to see what goes on between us and God in prayer. But the results of what goes on will be plainly seen. <u>Matthew 6:6</u> The secret place is a place of <u>intimacy</u>. This is where we get to know God.

While we are not invincible and do experience hardship, God promises us <u>immunity</u>.

Psalm 91:9-10 Immunity means that long before something gets to our borders we will be out of the way. We will have spiritual insight to make strategic moves so that you are in a place of safety. God, through the Holy Spirit, has a warning system that gives us notice and promptings before evil can hinder or harm us. Psalm 91:14

❖ When we are in agreement with God and obey His commands, we will live in <u>increase</u>.
<u>Deuteronomy 28:1-13, Romans 8:17 (AMP)</u> It is important to understand that we are joint heirs with Jesus and heirs of the promises of God.

We are heirs because we are family and carry the family name. In the Bible, a person's name was more than simply an identifier. It represented the character, virtue, family essence and resources of an individual. The name of Jesus is the Name above all other names.

Philippians 2:9-11 Remember that Jesus knows exactly who He is. It is only when we know who Jesus is that we have a full understanding of who WE are.

Every Christians must come to the place that they can answer one vital question. Who do we say that Jesus is? <u>Matthew 16:15-18</u> This doesn't happen with just information but by <u>divine</u> revelation. It is when we come into agreement about who Jesus is that we are able to come into agreement with God about who we are. Once we know <u>Whose</u> we are we will understand who we are and all that means and entails.

The Name of Jesus encompasses so much. Just a few of His names reveals who HE IS:

- He is Yahweh The Great I Am
- He is Jireh Our Provider.
- He is Tsidkenu Our Righteousness
- He is Rope Our Healer
- He is Rohi Our Shepherd **Psalm 23**
- He is Nissi Our leader and our banner, His banner, His standard over us is love, He is the Lover of our soul
- He is Shalom Our <u>Peace</u>, He makes us whole, complete, He is our fullness.
- He is Shamma Our companion
- He is the Christ The <u>Anointed</u> One, who anoints us, He is the Messiah of the world, Wonderful, He is <u>Lord</u>, Adonai.

When we come into agreement with God, He gives us the keys to the Kingdom. Matthew 16:19 Keys represent access, permission, privilege, trust, and authority. When a teenager receives the keys to the family car, a distinct turning point has been reached. Growth, preparedness, training, and trust converge in the release of this expensive and potentially dangerous vehicle into the care and use of a son or daughter. It's a big day, but also a weighty moment. What we give permission to has access, what we forbid and shut out is at our discretion. We can bind and lose.

~ Jack Hayford - When Jesus said He would give His disciples "the keys of the kingdom of heaven," He based it on each one's coming to the same place of understanding Peter had reached when he said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God". In other words, "the keys" are given to people who fully recognize Jesus as their King, and who yield to His rule as the mandate for their own lives.

As keys give access, Jesus opens new arenas of <u>possibility</u> for us. As keys verify trust, Jesus entrusts arenas of service to us. And just as keys ignite, lock, and loose, Christ sends us to people and circumstances waiting to be 'turned on,' 'closed in,' and 'set free.'

- One of the keys God gives us is <u>worship</u> and praise. Just like at Jericho our shout and praise to God brings down enemy walls and strongholds. It gives us the joy of the Lord for the spirit of heaviness. <u>Revelation 3:7</u>
- The key of Kingdom resources. <u>Isaiah 22:22</u> The Bible promises that our obedience to God will open the windows of Heaven and God will pour out such blessing that we will not have room to contain it. These resources are Spiritual, divine favor and natural provision.

We are free from <u>death</u> and hell. The free gift of God is eternal life. Jesus holds the keys to everything. What used to keep us bound up is now under the control of OUR family.
 Revelation 1:18

## <u>Hindrances To Living in Agreement with God.</u>

- 1. Our <u>walls</u> The enemy will always present problems that try to block the aid of Jesus. <u>John 16:33</u> Many times we hinder agreement with God because of walls that we have erected. Sin, fear, hurt, anger complacency, preoccupation, prayerlessness and pride. These walls can become strongholds that give the enemy access. The Bible tells us to not give the enemy any room in our lives. <u>Ephesians 4:27</u>
- 2. <u>Indecision</u> this robs you of intimacy with God. It keeps you from moving forward and doing things God's way. Indecision makes us unstable in everything including our walk with God. <u>Joshua 24:15</u>, <u>James 1:7-8</u>
- 3. Many times, we are <u>preoccupied</u> with our own agenda and business that we forget to come into agreement with God. We don't take time to ask or seek His will. Our prayer should be Your Kingdom come Your will be done. Remember God gave us the Keys to HIS kingdom. He never called us to build our own. Jesus was always about the Father's business. Many times we hinder what God wants to do in and through our lives because we are <u>minding</u> our business instead of mining the gold of the Kingdom of God.
- 4. Fear is often a strong barrier to our being in agreement with God and enjoying life with Him. Anyone who comes into agreement with God is an enemy of the world and an enemy of Satan. We do not need to be afraid. Psalm 17:8-9, Psalm 27:5
- 5. One of the most difficult barriers to life with God is <u>rejection</u>. Rejection is a spirit that many of us deal with. To be in right standing with God will often put us at odds with people. We must not allow our fear of rejection by people to cause us to reject God and His ways. Remember Jesus experienced these things. <u>Isaiah 53:3-5</u> In everything He did, Jesus' goal was to please the Father. We must never allow our desire for approval to hinder our walk with God. We are to be God pleasers, not people pleasers.
- 6. <u>Legalism</u> this puts law above people. Strictness over compassion. We hinder agreement with God when we allow our interpretation of what He is saying to override what God is actually saying. <u>Acts 10:1-35</u> If Peter would have stuck to the old law he would have hindered the work that God wanted to do among the Gentiles. (That is us)

Coming into agreement with God means doing what He says, even if it changes the status quo or your understanding of what you know. We must always allow God to reveal His will to us and then obey it. Peter was open for God to change his understanding of the way God was working.