Agreement with Others

Welcome to Harvest Community Church Series: The Power of Agreement **Text: Matthew 18:19-20**

If you look through the Bible you will see that God personifies and demonstrates the principle of agreement. In the account of creation, the Hebrew word for God is used, <u>Elohim</u>. This word for God is plural. God is God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. One in three and three in one. All the same and all are in agreement. "Let us make man in <u>Our</u> image". <u>John 1:1-4, John 16:13-15</u> The power of God flows out of this trinitarian agreement. God created us in His image. We are <u>three</u> parts: Body, Soul and Spirit.

Many times our lives are torn up because we can't even agree with ourselves. After God made us in His image He said, "let them have <u>dominion</u>". <u>Genesis 1:26-27</u> God gave us dominion but we can't take dominion because we can't agree and are divided over our differences. God made us male and female so we would be clearly different and have to work through our differences and <u>come</u> into agreement. Today the world seeks to divide us over everything. Marriages are splitting. The one are becoming two. We are divided over politics and churches split all the time over trivial things. There are things that will cause division that should happen. These are matters of good and evil that cannot be resolved because there should be no <u>compromise</u> or agreement with a lie or wickedness.

Dominion happens to nations and people when they put aside their <u>personal</u> preferences (their way of doing things) and get into agreement over what really matters. Being in agreement with others is about <u>adjusting</u> our lives to operate in one accord with God and others. It is about being in harmony with one another. Just like a symphony if every instrument does their own thing it is confusing and unpleasant. By following the conductor, they all make beautiful music.

By nature, we <u>separate</u> and segregate, we categorize one another. This is counterproductive to what God has for the body of Christ. The devil knows this. He knows how to use agreement if we don't. He uses two strategies to keep us out of unity with one another:

- 1) <u>Procrastination</u> If the devil can get us to put something off, he will. Deal with it later, pay for it later, speak with them later. <u>Matthew 5:23-25</u>
- 2) Disagreement and <u>disunity</u> God hates disagreement and disunity. Many times, we are divided over things we need not be. There are things that God hates.

Proverbs 6:16-19, James 3:5-6

Division, gossip, slander, we have no right to say anything about anyone who we have not had the <u>courage</u> to go to personally. Disagreement makes us dwell out of unity with God at times. If we don't get along with our spouses our prayers are hindered. <u>1 Peter 3:7</u>

Things to understand about agreement with others:

- Agreement requires <u>death</u> to self. <u>Galatians 2:20, Galatians 5:24</u> We need to get over "My Way", "I don't like them", "I don't see things that way".
- Agreement is a work of the Holy Spirit. <u>Galatians 5:25, Ephesians 4:1-6</u>
 <u>Unity</u> of the Spirit is a key thing to remember. We are one body, with one faith, and one Lord, one Father who is over all, above all, through all and <u>in</u> you all.
- Agreement promotes <u>success</u>. <u>Matthew 18:19</u> We are better together. Too often we would rather get the credit than be part of a symphony. We would rather win an argument than get the release of God's power. We would rather prove our point than have the anointing. We would rather build <u>our</u> kingdom and protect <u>our</u> territory than let God get the glory and others the credit.
- Agreement brings God's <u>presence</u>. <u>2 Corinthians 13:11-14</u>
- Agreement brings the <u>power</u> of God. <u>Acts 2:1-4</u> Agreement of purpose and desire releases the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Agreement brings <u>peace</u>. <u>Philippians 4:1-7</u> Our lack of peace can be found oftentimes in our lack of agreement. We are to be of one mind. There are times people need to be encouraged to get on the same page. Some people need help coming together and need to be reminded of the commonalties they share. Focus on those, not on the disagreements. Being of one mind means *Having the same viewpoint, opinion, or attitude: in agreement.*Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Corinthians 1:10-14
- Agreement brings the <u>commanded</u> blessing. There are three things that bring this kind of blessing:
 - 1) Tithe 10 % of our income. Malachi 3:10 (AMP, NLT)
 - 2) Agreement in unity. Psalm 133:1-3
 - 3) When we come into agreement with God's commands through <u>obedience</u>. Leviticus 25:18-21, Deuteronomy 28:1-14

One Another's of the Bible

"One another" is two words in English, but it's only one word in Greek: ἀλλήλων (ah-LAY-loan). It's used 100 times in 94 New Testament verses. 47 of those verses give instructions to the church, and 60% of those instructions come from Paul. This word means "One another, each other; mutually, reciprocally." These "One Another's, are specific commands teaching us how (and how not) to relate to one another. Obedience to those commands is imperative. It forms the basis for all true Christian community and has a direct impact on our witness to the world (John 13:35).

When you look at these verses, a few more common themes show up.

Unity. One third of the one-another commands deal with the unity of the church.

- 1. Be at peace with one another (Mk 9:50)
- 2. Don't grumble among one another (Jn 6:43)
- 3. Be of the same mind with one another (Ro 12:16, 15:5)
- 4. Accept one another (Ro 15:7)
- 5. Wait for one another before beginning the Eucharist (1 Co 11:33)
- 6. Don't bite, devour, and consume one another—seriously, guys, don't eat each other (Ga 5:15)
- 7. Don't boastfully challenge or envy one another (Ga 5:26).
- 8. Gently, patiently tolerate one another (Ep 4:2)
- 9. Be kind, tender-hearted, and forgiving to one another (Ep 4:32)
- 10. Bear with and forgive one another (Co 3:13)
- 11. Seek good for one another, and don't repay evil for evil (1 Th 5:15)
- 12. Don't complain against one another (Jas 4:11, 5:9)
- 13. Confess sins to one another (Jas 5:16)

Love. One third of them instruct Christians to love one another.

- 1. Love one another (Jn 13:34, 15:12, 17; Ro 13:8; 1 Th 3:12, 4:9; 1 Pe 1:22; 1 Jn 3:11, 4:7, 11; 2 Jn 5)
- 2. Through love, serve one another (Ga 5:13)
- 3. Tolerate one another in love (Ep 4:2)
- 4. Greet one another with a kiss of love (1 Pe 5:14)

5. Be devoted to one another in love (Ro 12:10)

Humility. About 15% stress an attitude of humility and deference among believers.

- 1. Give preference to one another in honor (Ro 12:10)
- 2. Regard one another as more important than yourselves (Php 2:3)
- 3. Serve one another (Ga 5:13)
- 4. Wash one another's feet (Jn 13:14)
- 5. Don't be haughty: be of the same mind (Ro 12:16)
- 6. Be subject to one another (Ep 5:21)
- 7. Clothe yourselves in humility toward one another (1 Pe 5:5)

Here's the rest:

- 1. Do not judge one another, and don't put a stumbling block in a brother's way (Ro 14:13)
- 2. Greet one another with a kiss (Ro 16:16; 1 Co 16:20; 2 Co 13:12)
- 3. Husbands and wives: don't deprive one another of physical intimacy (1.Co 7:5)
- 4. Bear one another's burdens (Ga 6:2)
- 5. Speak truth to one another (Ep 4:25)
- 6. Don't lie to one another (Co 3:9)
- 7. Comfort one another concerning the resurrection (1 Th 4:18)
- 8. Encourage and build up one another (1 Th 5:11)
- 9. Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (He 10:24)
- 10. Pray for one another (Jas 5:16)
- 11. Be hospitable to one another (1 Pe 4:9)

Here is another good way that they are compiled together.

Love One Another

- "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)
- "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12)
- "These things I command you, so that you will love one another." (John 15:17)
- "Love one another with brotherly affection." (Romans 12:10a)
- "Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law." (Romans 13:8)
- "And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you." (1 Thessalonians 3:12)
- "Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more." (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)
- "Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart." (1 Peter 1:22)
- "Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins." (1 Peter 4:8)
- "For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another." (1 John 3:11)
- "And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us." (1 John 3:23)
- "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7)
- "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us." (1 John 4:11-12)
- "And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another." (2 John 1:5)

Honor One Another

• "Outdo one another in showing honor." (Romans 12:10b)

Greet One Another

- "Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you." (Romans 16:16)
- "All the brothers send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss." (1 Corinthians 16:20)
- "Greet one another with a holy kiss." (2 Corinthians 13:12)
- "Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ." (1 Peter 5:14)

Welcome One Another

• "Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." (Romans 15:7)

Show Hospitality to One Another

• "Show hospitality to one another without grumbling." (1 Peter 4:9)

Have Fellowship With One Another

• "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:7)

Agree With One Another

• "...agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you." (2 Corinthians 13:11b)

Live in Harmony With One Another

- "Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight." (Romans 12:16)
- "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus." (Romans 15:5)

Be at Peace With One Another

• "Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." (Mark 9:50)

Be Kind to One Another

• "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted..." (Ephesians 4:32a)

Forgive One Another

- "...forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32b)
- "...and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive." (Colossians 3:13b)

Bear With One Another

- "With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:2-3)
- "Bearing with one another..." (Colossians 3:13a)

Bear One Another's Burdens

• "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2)

Comfort One Another

• "Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another..." (2 Corinthians 13:11a)

Care for One Another

• "That there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another." (1 Corinthians 12:25)

Confess Sins to One Another

• "Therefore, confess your sins to one another..." (James 5:16a)

Pray for One Another

• "...and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." (James 5:16b)

Encourage One Another

- "Therefore encourage one another with these words." (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- "Therefore encourage one another..." (1 Thessalonians 5:11a)
- "Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." (Hebrews 10:25)

Build One Another Up

• "...and build one another up, just as you are doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:11b)

Exhort One Another

• "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today,' that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." (Hebrews 3:13)

Instruct One Another

• "I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another." (Romans 15:14)

Teach and Admonish One Another

• "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." (Colossians 3:16)

Sing With One Another

• "Addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart." (Ephesians 5:19)

Stir Up One Another to Love and Good Works

• "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works." (Hebrews 10:24)

Do Good to One Another

• "See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone." (1 Thessalonians 5:15)

Serve One Another

- "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." (Galatians 5:13)
- "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

Wash One Another's Feet

• "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." (John 13:14)

Wait for One Another

• "So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for one another." (1 Corinthians 11:33)

Be Humble Toward One Another

• "Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5:5)

Submit to One Another

• "Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ." (Ephesians 5:21)

Speak the Truth to One Another

- "Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another." (Ephesians 4:25)
- "Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices." (Colossians 3:9)

Do Not Speak Against One Another

- "Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge." (James 4:11)
- "Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door." (James 5:9)

Do Not Judge One Another

• "Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother." (Romans 14:13)

Do Not Provoke One Another

• "Let us not become conceited, provoking one another..." (Galatians 5:26a)

Do Not Envy One Another

• "...envying one another." (Galatians 5:26b)