



First Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist Church

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Title: _____ **Horizontal Agreement** _____

Series: THE POWER OF AGREEMENT

Text: Matthew 18:18-20

Date: Sunday, May 1, 2022



Thematic Focus Scripture: Matthew 18:18-20

18“**Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**”

19“**Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.**”

20“**For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.**”

I. I want to suggest to all of us that everyone has a _____
_____.

An Agreement must be grounded in:

- Vertical – connection with God
- Inner – connection with Self
- Horizontal – connection with Others

A Connection with others is rooted in:

- Self-concept
- Trust and Forgiveness
- Belief System/ Core Values
- Language of Actions/Activity

II. All of us believe something.

A. The _____ belief system is that there is no God.

B. The _____ is someone who doesn't believe it's possible to know for sure that a god exists.

C. The _____ is someone who refers to what is called natural religion. They accept a certain body of religious knowledge that is inborn and reject religious knowledge that is acquired through either revelation or taught by the church.

D. The _____ is one who believes that all events are ultimately determined by causes external to the will.

E. The _____ is one who believes in the One and True Living God.

III. The idea is all of us are connected to a belief system.

The Connection between my belief system and others!

How can two walk together except they be agreed?

My belief system will do one of two things and sometimes it will do both:

- It can draw others to me who _____
_____.

Or

- It can attach others to me who _____
_____.

IV. The Apostle Paul explained this to the church at Corinth.
Most of us are familiar with **2 Corinthians 6:14**

“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?”

2 Corinthians 6:1

“We then, *as workers together with him*, beseech *you* also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.”

One of the keys is that Paul describes the position as workers together...

A. Agreement is the _____...

B. Agreement will never procure with _____:

- Physically
- Emotionally
- Socially
- Spiritually

2 Corinthians 6:3

“Giving no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed.”

Paul argued that a process was needed.

2 Corinthians 6:4

“But in all *things* approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,”

C. The word _____ in this text means:

- In the collaborative form
- Setting together
- To stand near
- To approve

V. Approved vs. Non-Approved

Paul clearly outlined how you can test which category people fall into in your life.

2 Corinthians 4-10

4 “But in all *things* approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,”

5 “In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;”

6 “By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,”

7 “By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,”

8 “By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and *yet* true;”

9 “As unknown, and *yet* well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;”

10 “As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and *yet* possessing all things.”

Verses 4-10, Paul listed all of the situations that he had encountered to demonstrate that he had been approved. And it was important to encamp yourself with others who had demonstrated the same proving process.

1. In much patience
2. In afflictions
3. In necessities
4. In distresses
5. In stripes
6. In imprisonments

7. In tumults
8. In labours
9. In watchings
10. In fastings –

The first ten (10) represent being _____ something.

11. By pureness
12. By knowledge
13. By longsuffering
14. By kindness
15. By the Holy Ghost
16. By love unfeigned
17. By word of truth
18. By the power of God
19. By the armour of the righteousness on the right
hand and left
20. By honour and dishonour
21. By evil report and good report.

This next group of eleven (11) represented _____ something

22. As deceivers and yet true
23. As unknown and yet well known
24. As dying and behold, as we live
25. As chaste and not killed
26. As sorrow, yet always rejoicing
27. As poor, yet making many rich
28. As having nothing and yet possessing all things.

This last grouping of seven (7) is represented by _____ something portrayed.

Sometimes the challenge is:

- in,
- by or
- as.

VI. Paul wanted the Church at Corinth to know that his mouth and heart were open to them _____.

Verse 11

“O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged.”

Verse 12

“Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels.”

You are not straitened _____ in us but you are a straitened in your own bowels.

Why?

You are unequally yoked together with unbelievers

Verse 14

“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?”

The key to not being unequally yoked _____

_____.