

Agree with One Another

Main Text: 1Corinthians 1:10

Sang Sur • November 3, 2022

I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose. -1Corinthians 1:10 (NLT)

We are called to be one Church. Jesus is the vine, and “we,” together, are the branches.

Last week: “in, but not of” – our Christian living occurs outside the church, in the world. The Lord’s Day is for our rest.
(If we have it backwards, we will live like the world in the world, and be fake at church.)

What is amen?

Sang’s experience in praying for healing. We need child-like faith. (See Mark 2:1-12, the faith of friends healed the man).

When someone asks for you to pray for you, you can believe for the other person with an amen.

- The exception is when it is not Scriptural, or the Holy Spirit directs you to not pray for that.

19“I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. 20For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.” -Matthew 18:19-20 (NLT)

How can you have an amen? Through relationships with God and others.

- Without knowing each other, you cannot know the intent and heart from where the request is coming from
 - o Example 1: Prayer for something not personal
 - o Example 2: Prayer for money, fame, or other things that can come from selfish sinfulness
- Yet, when you know someone deeply, you may even want to donate some money or time to help the person!

1. Amen to God – Scripture knowledge, vulnerability with the Holy Spirit (*Relationship with God*)

- Fact: Many amens written in Scripture is about “Praise and glory to God forever and ever.” Can you give an amen to that?
- When the Holy Spirit directs you to take action, such as pray for someone, can you say amen to that and act?

2. Amen to and with other believers (*Relationship with other Christian brothers and sisters*)

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There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus. -Galatians 3:28 (NLT)

12The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. 13Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. -1Corinthians 12:12-13 (NLT)

- How can Christians say amen to each other, about their needs being met, or their vision for their lives? (Answer: Truly know one another. Intentional close relationships that can rebuke and encourage one another. Example: David and Nathan [2Samuel 12]).
- What is your view on smoking, drinking, and other things that Christians “are not supposed” to do?
And if another believer is distressed by what you eat, you are not acting in love if you eat it. Don't let your eating ruin someone for whom Christ died. Romans 14:15 (NLT)

3. Amen toward not-yet-believers because you want to influence them (*Relationship with not-yet-Christians*)

19Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. 20When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law. 21When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ. 22When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. 23I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. - 1Corinthians 9:19-23 (NLT)

- The goal is to introduce them to discipleship, loving relationships among other believers.
 - o It may begin with 1 on 1 relationship, then you can welcome them to group meetings.
 - o Sang story – a Muslim who came to our church in 2015.
- How would you pray for a confessing “non-Christian” when they ask for prayer?
- How will your interactions be different between Christian and not-yet-Christian relationships?

How can you have deep relationships with God, other Christians, and not-yet-Christians? Things to consider:

- Vulnerability or a smile-shield?, Definition of friends, Possibility of gossip and hurts, What other risks can you think of?

Do you have a depth of relationships with whom they know everything about you?

Sang’s childhood friend: Dong Ha Kim. Consider Jonathan and David.

1David now fled from Naoth in Ramah and found Jonathan. "What have I done?" he exclaimed. "What is my crime? How have I offended your father that he is so determined to kill me?" 2"That's not true!" Jonathan protested. "You're not going to die. He always tells me everything he's going to do, even the little things. I know my father wouldn't hide something like this from me. It just isn't so!" 13But if he is angry and wants you killed, may the LORD strike me and even kill me if I don't warn you so you can escape and live. May the LORD be with you as he used to be with my father. -1Samuel 20:1-2, 13 (NLT)

Conclusion:

1) God calls us to an amen with Him 2) God calls us to an amen with others who believe in Him 3) God calls us to influence others who may not yet know Him, by meeting them where they are and saying amen for God to show His love to them.