

#### TODAY'S MESSAGE:

# With GOD = With PEOPLE

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | October 29, 2023

# Life With People -> The PRAYER of JESUS: John 17:20-23 (NIV)

<sup>20</sup> "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—<sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

### 2) WITH PEOPLE - How you GROW.

### Ephesians 4:15-16 (NIV)

<sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

#### 2 Corinthians 7:5-7 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> For when we came into Macedonia, we had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn–conflicts on the outside, fears within. <sup>6</sup> But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, <sup>7</sup> and not only by his coming but also by the comfort you had given him.

#### 1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup> If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

## 3) WITH PEOPLE -> Changes the WORLD

#### John 17:22-23 (NIV)

 $^{22}$  I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one- $^{23}$  I in them and you in me-so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

# John 13:34-35 (NIV)

<sup>34</sup> "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

#### **Reflection Questions:**

#### Read John 17:20-23:

<sup>20</sup> "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

#### With GOD = With PEOPLE

- 1) Does it seem possible to you that believers could be brought to complete unity in the same way that Jesus and the Father are united? Why or why not?
- 2) What barriers do we need to overcome to see this become a reality?
- 3) What things have kept you from being united with other people in the church?
- 4) What can you do personally to help move the church toward the kind of unity that Jesus prayed for?
- 5) How has God used other people in your life to help you grow in your love and connection to God? Share some examples.

- 6) How have you been used by God in the life of another person to help them grow? Share some examples.
- 7) Jesus said our unity and love for each other is what will prove to the world that His message it true. Why do you think this is true?
- 8) What does the world observe when it sees the church today? What is the cost of not loving each other the way Christ loved us? What should the world see when it looks at the church? Give some specific examples.
- 9) How might our church look different if we were all sacrificially loving each other and unified in heart and purpose? What would we see happening?
- 10) What is your next step in moving toward greater unity and love of your spiritual family? What is God saying to you about this? What are you going to do about it?



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