Series: The Power of Agreement (Week 6)
Date: February 19, 2026
Presenter: Pastor Donell M. Winder
Lesson Title: The Practice of Agreement
Anchor Passage: Ephesians 4:1–6; Colossians 3:12–15

Big Idea

Agreement with God must move beyond belief and alignment into daily practice within our relationships. Scripture reveals that unity is not sustained automatically but cultivated intentionally through Spirit-led character, guarded speech, mutual submission, patient endurance, and persistent love. When agreement with God shapes how we respond to one another, unity becomes visible, maturity deepens, and the church reflects Christ more clearly. Practiced agreement transforms theology into lived testimony, strengthening both internal relationships and external witness.

Key Insights

- **Agreement Is Practiced Through Intentional Peacemaking:** Unity requires deliberate pursuit rather than passive expectation. Agreement grows when we step toward reconciliation instead of retreating into silence or escalating tension. Practicing agreement means confronting pride, clarifying misunderstandings, and pursuing restoration with humility and wisdom. Unity is strengthened when believers accept responsibility for preserving peace rather than waiting for others to initiate it (Matthew 5:9; Romans 12:18; 2 Corinthians 5:18–20).
- **Agreement Is Practiced Through Guarded Speech:** Words shape unity. Agreement is either strengthened or weakened by how we communicate. Careless words often expose unresolved pride or frustration, while disciplined speech reflects spiritual maturity. Unity is protected when our communication builds others up rather than tearing them down. Guarded speech demonstrates that alignment with God is shaping our character (Proverbs 18:21; Matthew 12:34–37; Ephesians 4:29; James 3:5–6).
- **Agreement Is Practiced Through Mutual Submission:** Unity matures when we prioritize shared purpose over personal preference. Agreement is preserved when believers exercise restraint and willingly yield where Scripture allows flexibility. Not every right must be asserted, and not every preference deserves defense. Mutual submission reflects humility and strengthens collective mission. Agreement grows when cooperation replaces competition (Romans 14:19; Philippians 2:1–4; 1 Corinthians 10:23–24).
- **Agreement Is Practiced Through Patient Endurance:** Unity is tested in seasons of tension, inconvenience, and imperfection. Agreement deepens when we choose grace over reaction and endurance over impatience. Not every irritation requires confrontation, and not every offense requires escalation. Patience stabilizes relationships and prevents minor tensions from becoming major fractures. Spiritual maturity allows unity to endure while growth continues (Colossians 3:13; Proverbs 19:11; Galatians 6:2; Ecclesiastes 7:8).
- **Agreement Is Practiced Through Persistent Love:** Love sustains unity when circumstances strain it. Agreement is not maintained by convenience but by sacrificial commitment. Persistent love absorbs offense, protects relationship, and reflects God's character within community. When love governs our responses, unity deepens and witness strengthens. Agreement remains steady when love is consistent rather than conditional (1 Peter 4:8; John 15:12–13; 1 Corinthians 13:4–7; 1 John 4:7).

Application

1. We must intentionally pursue peace rather than avoid conflict.
2. We must guard our words so they build unity rather than weaken it.
3. We must prioritize shared purpose over personal preference.
4. We must respond with patience instead of pride.
5. We must love consistently, even when unity requires sacrifice.

Closing Thought

The practice of agreement reveals whether alignment with God has truly reshaped our character. Unity is not sustained by shared belief alone, but by Spirit-led humility, disciplined speech, patient endurance, and sacrificial love. When we practice agreement consistently, the church reflects Christ more clearly, relationships mature, and the transforming power of the gospel becomes visible through our lives.