

Love One Another

October 1, 2017

Thank you so much for choosing to worship with us today. We are thrilled that you are here!

What is it that separates us? Why is there such a division between people? Why do we choose sides so quickly and so definitively? What keeps us from getting along with others? What happened to relationship?

I realize there will be things that people disagree on. I realize there will be things that people simply see differently. I realize that our individual preferences will be at odds at times. I realize that there has never been or ever will be a time where some conflict doesn't exist. But the question is, "What do we do with these things?"

It is unfortunately clear that we struggle with how to get along. In fact, struggle is too soft of a word to describe it. We don't know how. And our inability flows over into every aspect of life – home, work, play, neighborhood, driving, and yes church.

I come back to the question, "What do we do with these things?" (mentioned above)

The Bible is full of instruction on how to get along with others:

- Value others above yourself – Philippians 2
- Do what leads to peace – Romans 14
- Maintain unity – Ephesians 4
- Don't judge – Matthew 7
- Don't show favoritism – James 2
- Control your tongue – James 3

However, I am convinced that the basis for being able to do any of the above is found in the words of Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40:

Jesus replied: "‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

All Things for Christ,
Michael