



# GRATITUDE

## **Sermon— What Unites Us**

### **Scripture—Romans 3:20-24 (NLT)**

**John 17:11(NIV)** I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

#### **1 - History of the early church**

- **Do we choose only to have friends with the same stripes?**

#### **2 - The Lord's Supper**

**Acts 2:44-47(NLT)** 44 And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. 45 They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity— 47 all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

#### **3 - Corporate Gratitude**

- **Different passions and convictions fuel much of our trouble within the church.**

**Romans 3:20-24 (NLT)** 20 For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. 21 But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. 22 We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. 23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. 24 Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

- **Our differences should not define us; they must drive us to be united.**
- **Unity in prayer, worship and fellowship prioritize the body of Christ over individual wants and desires.**

**1 Corinthians 1:10 (ESV)** 10 I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.