



Sermon Notes from 17 February

One Body, One Spirit, One Agape (Romans 12:1-8)

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The call for Agape this year is to **Remember, Repent** and **Resume** (Rev 2:5). Agape @ OneFarrer has also come into a new year!

3 Ways We Celebrate OneFarrer's First Year Together

1) Remember

Rom 12:1 - Paul was giving a call to remember, think and dwell on God's "journey" mercies thus far. Remembering His mercies shape the way we receive God's command. Agape's Multi-site journey began in 2011.

The 5 'P's of the Multi-Site Vision:

#1 The Prompting of the Holy Spirit - The Holy Spirit places promptings in our hearts that leads us to realise change is needed. This triggered the multi-site journey.

#2 The Priority of Community - Community is a precious God-given grace that is indispensable to any healthy church. A second site gives people opportunities to love and serve one another truthfully.

#3 The Proclamation of Faith - Through the different engagements in church, we want people to connect meaningfully with the gospel. Through the second site, our faith is proclaimed more effectively.

#4 The Possibilities of Multiple Ministries - Having a second site would give more opportunities for people to serve the body. This keeps the church active and alive instead of passive and lethargic.

#5 The Promise of Growth - We desire to grow in both depth and numbers. When Paul calls us to remember the mercies of God, it is not just the "journey" mercies but the first sacrifice of Jesus Christ - He is the mercy of God to us as sinners (Rom 12:1).

2) Repent

3 Types of Fake Repentance:

#1 "Formulaic" Repentance - Wrongdoing + Saying 'sorry' = No Consequences. This is all about escaping the harsh penalties of sin.

#2 "Buddy-Buddy" Repentance - This forces you to do whatever it takes to make sure the people you have wronged do not despise you.

#3 "Jack-in-the-box" Repentance - This is all about self-justification. You pretend to say 'sorry' and push the blame somewhere else.

Repentance is completely turning away from the old direction, to a new one instead. With both your heart and actions, you are saying to God 'I hate what I've done, and I will do everything in my power to ensure I do the exact opposite'.

Old Direction vs. New Direction

Worldly Conformation vs. Godly Transformation (v2)

Highly Valuing Oneself vs. Highly Valuing One Body (v3-5)

Turning away: Worldliness and self-centeredness must be removed from the way we think about the big and small things.

Turning to: *Let Agape be genuine* (Rom 12:9).

3) Resume

v3 - We are to respond in the **one** gospel faith that God has given us (Eph 4:4-6).

The measure of gospel faith includes (Rom 12):

1. Clarity of who God is (v1)
2. Appreciation of what God has done (v1)
3. Resonance with what God is doing and wills to do (v2)
4. Wariness at ourselves (v3)
5. Trust in the Body (v4-5)
6. Freedom to serve (v6-8)

In everything you do, seek to do them with genuine Agape love. *Agape love arises by that 'measure of gospel faith' in action.*