**Message Series: Sit. Walk. Stand**

**Today: Us vs. Them**

**Speaker: Ronnie Norman**

***Ephesians 2:13-22***

***13****But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

***14****For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,* ***15****by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,* ***16****and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.*

***17****He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.* ***18****For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.*

**1. Pervasive, negative relational attitudes are incompatible with the gospel of grace.**

***Ephesians 2:8-9***

***8****For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—* ***9****not by works, so that no one can boast.*

**2. Pervasive, negative relational attitudes are incompatible with God’s vision for the church.**

***Ephesians 2:19-22***

***19****Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household,* ***20****built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.* ***21****In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.* ***22****And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

<http://www.hrhero.com/hl/articles/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Cliques.jpg>

<http://wp.patheos.com.s3.amazonaws.com/blogs/nakedpastor/files/2008/09/my-kinda-church_2.jpg>

**3. What Can You Do?**

**A. Open your hearts.**

**B. Open your hands.**

*“extend the right hand of fellowship”*

<https://youtu.be/WwJWW6UKnIc>