



# Christian Faith Fellowship

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**We are not a perfect church**

**We are not a perfect people**

**We are here because we know we need  
God's help and He has provided this help  
through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

**“CFF Exists to Know Christ and to Make Him  
Known!”**

- **Prayer for all involved in the attack on Paris**
- **Communion Thanksgiving Service Wednesday  
November 25, 6:30 p.m. in the glass Chapel**
- **Deposit is due for Sierra Leone trip, this Friday,  
November 20 (\$250.00)**
- **Full Throttle Ride to Tempe New Beginnings  
event next Saturday November 21. (Email)**
- **Your generous offering for Red Rock Village  
Church!! Total so far is \$2,836.99**
- **Full Throttle Prayer Ride to Red Rock  
December 5 – EVERYONE welcome!**

## Living the Faith

- **Are you spending at least 5 minutes per day reading the Bible? (listening on CD/Online?)**  
**Reading Schedule at the Welcome table.**
- **Have you shared your Conversion story/or a God Story?**
- **Are you hearing what the Spirit is saying?**
- **Did you spend some alone time with God this week? (No agenda, no bible, no music, no journal, etc.)**

# Nehemiah

- **Nehemiah had prayed & fasted asking for God to honor His promises & to grant him favor before King Artaxerxes**
- **He then asked the King for letters to pass to Jerusalem, give him the goods needed to rebuild the city walls and his own house.**
- **The king gives him more than he asked!**
- **Immediately opposition arose!**

## **Nehemiah 2:11-16**

**11 I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days 12 I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on. 13 By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. 14 Then I moved on toward the**

**Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; 15 so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. 16 The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.**

- The reality of the work!**
- Destruction was everywhere – the people had just learned to live with things as they were!**

## **Nehemiah 2:17-18**

**17 Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.” 18 I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, “Let us start rebuilding.” So they began this good work.**

## **Nehemiah 2:17-18**

- **Nobody wants to live in brokenness but when that is your ‘normal’ you sometimes don’t realize there is hope for something better!**
- **Sharing the vision & the beginning of the work is easy & exciting!**
- **In the beginning of change it doesn’t require a lot of motivation – most people can see it and are excited for it!**
- **We all want change BUT there will always be opposition to that change!**

## **Nehemiah 2:19**

**19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. “What is this you are doing?” they asked. “Are you rebelling against the king?”**

- Nehemiah had faced opposition at the beginning & it's no different with the next step in the process! ANY God work will have opposition & it *usually* begins immediately after the vision is shared & people are excited about the change!**

## Question & Doubt

*19 “...What is this you are doing?” they asked. “Are you rebelling against the king?...”*

- **This is the same thing the enemy does with us today... planting seeds of doubt & questioning the direction!**
- **What happens when you begin to make changes in your situation (Spiritual life, Marriage, Family life, addictions, etc.)?**
- **What happens in churches, ministry, etc.?**

## **Nehemiah 2:20**

**20 I answered them by saying, “The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it.”**

- The response to doubt & question of direction is “The God of heaven will give us success...”**
- We cannot accomplish the work on our own, in our own strength, or just because we all agree – the work is God’s work and it will only succeed if He does it through us!**

- **Once you have accepted and embraced that this is a God work and will only succeed if He does it the next step is to put the enemy in his place!**
- ***“...as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it.”***
- **The enemies goal is to keep you in the broken state that you have been living in...**
- **He does not want you to believe there is anything else available for you BUT brokenness! (He is a liar!!)**

- **Looking back at the Exodus story – the Children of Israel celebrate that God had sent a deliverer but they faced opposition before they actually started the Exodus!**
- **After the 10th Plague hits Egypt the Israelites begin the Exodus to the promised land!**
- **Only a few days into the journey they are at the Red Sea and Pharaoh rides with his army to bring them back! (Remember the pillar of fire by night and the cloud by day was God's presence)**

## **Exodus 14:10-12**

**10 As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. 11 They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? 12 Didn’t we say to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians’? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!”**

- **When the enemy comes and challenges us on our new journey it can appear we should have never left where we were!**
- **The past looks a lot more comfortable and secure because at least we know what it looked like and what difficulties we had to deal with - we understood the boundaries!**
- **NEW is never easy but if it's God's NEW - it's absolutely worth facing the enemy and trusting God for deliverance!**
- **It takes NO EFFORT to return to the old ways!**

## Action Steps

- **What new does God want to take you to or has He been leading you toward?**
- **What lie is the enemy telling you about your inability to change, where is he trying to plant his seeds of doubt?**
- **Will you face the doubt & questions & make a stand with God that you WILL NOT go back to the brokenness of the past but Trust Him for complete deliverance & direction!**