



Christian Faith Fellowship

- 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!**

Living the Faith

- **Are you spending at least 5 minutes a day at least 5 days a week reading your Bible?**
- **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?**

- **We are only 4 weeks from the Resurrection!**
- **The Bible tells us that Jesus visited with the Disciples from time to time for 40 days after the resurrection.**
- **His visits with them had purpose to encourage their faith & open their hearts and minds to all that He had done - the fulfillment of prophecy & the Law.**
- **He was preparing them to carry the message to the world! – Let's revisit the morning of the event!**

Luke 24:1-11

1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground,

but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” 8 Then they remembered his words. 9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James,

and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

- The story they were being told was something beyond logic, reason, reality...**
- I'm happy for your experience – good for you...**
- So, they didn't believe until they themselves had a personal encounter with Jesus!**

John 20:19-29

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and

said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” 24 Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

26A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” **27** Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” **28** Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” **29** Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

- **As we all know – this event is where we get the term “doubting Thomas”...**
- **The disciples themselves had reacted the very same way to the message the ladies had brought them!!**
- **The story they were sharing IS beyond reality...**
- **There may be some listening now that find the story of Jesus just too much to believe!**
- **Those of you who are believers... do you remember the first time you heard the story?**

- **What was it that caused you to release your doubt and believe???** (Yes, the Holy Spirit was drawing!)
- **The miracle of believing = forgiveness/salvation!**
- **I speak to you believers now... you believe that Jesus death and resurrection paid the price for your sins & you are forgiven?**
- **To believe that takes Faith on your part! Actually great faith because it is beyond reality!!**
- **Jesus Himself said to Thomas:**

John 20:29 ...“Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

- **Faith to believe!!**
- **So – what now is causing you to doubt? No, not your salvation, but the living of the Christian life!**
- **What is it that you are struggling to believe that you can overcome?**
- **Why is it that we don't believe that Jesus can give us victory over everything that comes against us?**

- **What thing in your life do you need to take with you and re-visit your encounter with Jesus and believe?**
- **Our God is BIGGER than the thing you're struggling with and by faith you can be an overcomer – just believe!!**
- **Jesus paid the price for you to have the victory over sin... let's stop doubting that God can do the impossible and bring the impossible to Him to demonstrate His God-ness!!**

Mark 10:27 Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

- **When He called us to believe and we confessed our sins, believing that Jesus is our Savior we were forgiven!**
- **The Holy Spirit gave us witness that we were God’s child! We believed!!**
- **Simple faith is all that is needed for the next victory in your life! God CAN!!!**

Personal Application

- **ALL things are possible with God!**
- **Will you reach out by faith and touch the scars of Jesus to believe & stop doubting?**

Luke 18:19-20 *19 Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” 20 He replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”*

- **Are you ready to move the mountain in your life?**