



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 with a non-believer?**
- **Are you hearing what the Spirit is saying?**
- **Did you spend some alone time with God this week?**

James 1:2-4

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

- **Perseverance... pushing through with Faith!**
- **Did you have some opportunities to persevere this week?!**

James 1:5-

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

▪ Solid Faith – unwavering in belief!!

James 1:9-11

9 Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. 10 But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. 11 For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

▪ Jesus teaches Servant Leadership – Humility!

James 1:12

12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

- **Persevere through it all!! Continue to push forward in faith – trusting God completely!!**
- **As we are being challenged on living the Christian life the scriptures lead into temptation... the door to maturity in faith!**

James 1:13-15

13 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

- **God does NOT tempt... as we are led by the Spirit the enemy is there to tempt us & God allows the roads to cross for us to persevere, grow in our faith & come out victorious!**

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

- **The Spirit does the leading... the devil/sin does the tempting... the Spirit gives a door of EXIT to come out victorious in the encounter!!**

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

- **The EXIT = perseverance, standing strong in our faith, growth in faith = victorious living!**
- **Too many times Christians act like pawns in the hands of the devil and simply give in...**

James 4:7-8 7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you.

- **To take our stand against the devil, temptation, etc. we simply need to take a stand in our faith!**
- **We don't have to attack – we have to stand.. The enemy wants you to run... retreat... don't go anywhere – face it in Faith and he will turn and run!**
- **Let's again look at Jesus in the wilderness**

Matthew 4 1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” 4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ...

- **Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 8:3**
- **The next temptation satan quotes a verse ... it is written:... Psalm 91:11-12**
- **Jesus answered him, “It is also written: Deut 6:16**

- **The miss-quoting of scripture by satan... in other words.. The scriptures were taken out of context and the use of those verses did not match the whole of the context of scripture.**
- **This is what cult leaders and false faiths do all the time... they quote only specific scriptures to make their point but does the point/truth = the whole of what God says in scripture?**
- **Don't try and apply the Bible to your truth – let the Bible teach you truth!**

John 16:12-13

12 I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth...

- **The Holy Spirit will lead you into the truth...
don't worry about what you don't understand...
apply what you do understand!!!**
- **None of us knows everything – continue to walk in the Truth that you know and continue seeking and God is faithful – He will lead you!!**

Matthew 4 10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: Jesus quotes Deut. 6:13

Matthew 4:11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

▪ **Remember what we read in James?**

James 4:7-8 7 Submit yourselves, then, to God.

Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you.

▪ **Jesus stood on the Word – the devil fled – Faith won!**

Life Application

- **During the week did you stand in your faith – facing the opposition and persevere?**
- **Do you see an area that you did not or have not been standing strong in the faith?**
- **Will you resist the devil and draw near to God?**
- **Are you willing to see God's truth and submit your truth to it?**
- **Will you commit to increasing your time with God in the Bible? (CD's, Online, Reading, NOT preaching)**