



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

- **Have you spent at least 5 minutes a day at least 5 days this week reading your Bible?**
- **Have you shared your conversion story/or a God story with a non-believer this week?**
- **Are you praying about “Who” for Salvation Sunday September 25?**
- **Are you hearing what the Spirit is saying?**
- **Did you spend some alone time with God this week?**

Last week: obedience – the necessity of living right for God as He has not changed WHO He is in the New Testament and it is the “Whole God” we will stand before at judgment!

- We have preached the Gospel in such a way as to emphasize the forgiveness, grace, mercy, and love of God the whole while pushing under the rug the righteous Judge that God is and the demand that He has for those who would follow His ways!

1 Peter 1:3-7

3 All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, 4 and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. 5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last

day for all to see. 6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, ...

- Now that all sounds amazing!! I hear God's promise of an inheritance in heaven, God's protection, His power,
- Then we are told to be truly glad there is wonderful joy ahead!! Who wouldn't want to be part of this?
- Here is one of the challenges of the N.T. preaching of the Gospel... we have stopped reading the scriptures in places like this BUT there is more!!

- The truth of what is being stated to us is within the context of the reading!!
- The Apostle Peter is writing to the believers to encourage them and give them assurance that their salvation is ETERNAL and God will reward them for being faithful!!
- God is providing what they need and will provide what they need – they need to hold onto their faith!
- So let's continue reading in the context of scripture what is being said here....

6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, ... even though you must endure many trials for a little while. 7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

- God's FULL SALVATION is coming – get excited!!
But - you are going to deal with some “fiery trials”
for a while!!

7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold

- The challenges you are going through – the challenges you WILL go through are where your faith either shines for what it is or shrivels for what it is!!
- How has your faith been seen this week?

- We keep praying and believing for God to change our current circumstances and because we were obedient in an area, God owes us one! It's like He should wave His magic holy wand and fix our circumstances because we did something right!
- The sin of this world affects our lives and challenges our faith! We are to live that faith **NO MATTER WHAT** we are going through!
- It's easy to live the faith when things are easy... it's when we are tested that our true faith is seen!

1 Peter 1

7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. 8 You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him now, you trust him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy. 9 The reward for trusting

him will be the salvation of your souls. 10 This salvation was something even the prophets wanted to know more about when they prophesied about this gracious salvation prepared for you. 11 They wondered what time or situation the Spirit of Christ within them was talking about when he told them in advance about Christ's suffering and his great glory afterward. 12 They were told that their messages were not for themselves, but for you. And now this Good News has been announced to you by those who

preached in the power of the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. It is all so wonderful that even the angels are eagerly watching these things happen.

- The O.T. prophets & the angels of heaven are amazed at this salvation plan God has!! There is an audience of awe and wonder at us living this Faith out!!

13 So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control.

- What actions & self-control are being seen in you?

Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. 14 So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then.

- There are **CONSTANT** references in N.T. to the believer **NOT LIVING** the same life we **USED** to live before Christ!!!
- How **IS** your life different since you met Jesus?

15 But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. 16 For the Scriptures say, “You must be holy because I am holy.”

- Be holy in everything you do...(this week?)

17 And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as “temporary residents.”

- No Favorites... He sees us ALL the same!!

18 For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. 19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.

- Before Jesus your life was empty... stop believing the enemy that you “used to have fun” or “talking about the good old days” ... they were empty and left you empty!!!
- There is fullness of life in Christ!!

- We can't think that God would pay such a great price for us and then just let us do as we please with our lives!!
- We were ransomed for a purpose! To love and serve God – not so He can join us on OUR journey sprinkling His holy pixy dust on us and making all our problems go away!
- The trials we are facing are to show the world that Jesus is real... our Faith is real... our God is real!
- How are you doing on the test?