



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!**

- Did you spend 5 minutes a day at least 5 days last week reading the Bible?
- Did you pray about "WHO" for salvation Sunday Sept 25?
- Did you share a God story with a non-believer this week?
- Did you spend some time alone with God this week?
- Are you hearing what the Holy Spirit is saying to you?

- One of the biggest issues Christians seem to bring up regularly to me is: they don't "hear God talking to them" - "Don't know what God is saying to them" - "He doesn't talk to them"
- I believe, one of the first steps in our discipleship process NEEDS to be teaching believers to "hear/ know God's voice"
- A baby learns the voice of It's mother in the womb - it's one of the first things a baby knows!!

<http://www.parenting.com/article/what-babies-learn-in-the-womb>

- This is the very **REASON** we became Christians in the first place - **GOD** called us!!!! While in the womb of sin - He called to us and we recognized His voice even **BEFORE** we were born!!

John 6:44 For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up.

- **Shouldn't it be normal for a believer to **RECOGNIZE/Know God's voice??****
- You were called by God... You've heard His voice!

Knowing the Holy Spirits voice/promptings

Hebrews 5:11-14 There is much more we would like to say about this, but it is difficult to explain, especially since you are spiritually dull and don't seem to listen. You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is

right. Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

- We are clearly taught here that we should be growing in our understanding of truth!
- There is an expectation that through “training” there is a skill of discernment that is available to the believer that will increase their ability to make right decisions in their life!
- This is living a mature faith – it’s living the faith!

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.

IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE CAN DISCERN GOD'S TRUTH FROM FALSE TRUTH

1 John 4:1 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

- As Christians the obvious first place to Hear God and discern is through the Scripture - We should all start there and then continue forward!
- God also speaks outside of His word to the believer! He taught His disciples about the coming Holy Spirit and the impact He would have on Christ

John 14:15-17 “If you love me, obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn’t looking for him and doesn’t recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you

- The Holy Spirit is leading us into ALL TRUTH -
But we tend to believe this is a special group of people that have a gift of discernment!

- This is available to every believer!
- Look at what Jesus said to EVERY one of the 7 churches in Revelation at the CONCLUSION of each message: Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, 22

“Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches...”

Take a deeper look: Revelation 3:20 “Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.”

- JESUS is talking to the CHURCH asking to be invited in!
- He then – again – addresses the HEARING of the Spirit! (As mentioned above)!!
- He is knocking on the door of the Church?!!!! Who Hears Him???

John 10:27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.

- Let's think about our prayer times and how we bring things to the Lord in Church, Devotions, meetings ...
- We talk - Give God our list Say AMEN! And walk away or start something new!! We RARELY give God a chance to respond or say anything! If He wants to say something He usually has to interrupt!!!
- We're supposed to talk But when do we ever listen?
- Do we read a passage of Scripture then just listen to what God wants to say to ME about it??? Not how it applies to the Smiths or a teaching - Just me?

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

- Notice who is being addressed “to all...”

Philippians 1:9-11 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

- This ability to discern is something ALL believers need to have... This is not referencing the Gift of Discernment... But discernment itself!

1 Corinthians 12:10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

- The gift of discernment here as given by the Apostle Paul is one of distinguishing spirits

- The scriptures teaching of the believers discernment is one of understanding spiritual truth & understanding of the word of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

- There are countless self-proclaimed prophets! We cannot allow false prophetic words to be spoken or false messages given in the body of Christ and it is our responsibility to **KNOW THE TRUTH!**

Action Steps – Life Application

- How do you hear God's voice/promptings?
- Do you know the voice of temptation?
- During a time of temptation there are 2 voices attempting to guide you in your decision... know those voices!
- When you read the Bible are there times a specific idea or item stands out? (This is God's voice or prompting to you).
- God is speaking – Do you hear Him?