



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!**

Accountability Questions

- **Did you spend 5 minutes a day at least 5 days last week reading the Bible?**
- **Did you share a God story with a non-believer this week?**
- **Did you spend some time alone with God this week?**
- **What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?**
- **Have you sent in your “I said Yes to Jesus” video? (I said Yes to Jesus video here)**

- When Jesus resurrected He continued to minister to the disciples for another 40 days - on the 40th day after the resurrection Jesus ascended into heaven and we read the account of this in Acts 1
- It is here we receive the parting message of Jesus and the mission of all believers...

Acts 1

6 So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?” 7 He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

- It seems the usual practice of Christ followers is to be looking for the wrong things & missing God's agenda.
- Yes the prophets had told of Jesus the Messiah establishing a throne BUT throughout His earthly ministry He kept showing the disciples to look beyond the moment to the eternal work & they struggled to see past their agenda & the moment.
- Seeing past our agenda & the moment are some of the biggest hurdles we have to deal with!

- The focus wasn't His establishing a Kingdom on earth but sharing the life changing story of Jesus!
- Here is the mission of the church/Christ-follower:
8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
- Let's check out an example at the beginning of their ministry – after Pentecost...

Acts 3

1 Peter and John went to the Temple one afternoon to take part in the three o'clock prayer service. 2 As they approached the Temple, a man lame from birth was being carried in. Each day he was put beside the Temple gate, the one called the Beautiful Gate, so he could beg from the people going into the Temple. 3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for some money. 4 Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, "Look at us!" 5 The lame man

looked at them eagerly, expecting some money. 6 But Peter said, “I don’t have any silver or gold for you. But I’ll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!” 7 Then Peter took the lame man by the right hand and helped him up. And as he did, the man’s feet and ankles were instantly healed and strengthened. 8 He jumped up, stood on his feet, and began to walk! Then, walking, leaping, and praising God, he went into the Temple with them. 9 All the people saw him walking and heard him

praising God. 10 When they realized he was the lame beggar they had seen so often at the Beautiful Gate, they were absolutely astounded! 11 They all rushed out in amazement to Solomon's Colonnade, where the man was holding tightly to Peter and John. 12 Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness? 13 For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of all our

ancestors—who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate, despite Pilate’s decision to release him. 14 You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. 15 You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact!

- First, it was common practice for people who worshipped God to be charitable to the needy.

- Second, Peter and John reacted in a new way - a God way to the need - Pray for life change FIRST
- Third, Peter and John prayed expecting God to show up and do something!
- Fourth, When God opens the door and shows up - we need to take advantage of the moment God has given us! Follow God's agenda!! Share Jesus!

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- Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd..
- How are you praying for needs before trying to meet them? (Peter & John never planned to give him any money – they had something better!)
- How are you seeing the opportunities God has placed before you?

- How can we be more intentional & capitalize on the opportunities to share a God story?
- If you are a Christ Follower – your life is a miracle!
- The change in you will give you an opportunity to share with those around you what God has done!
- It's easy to get in the fast lane of life and go right past the God appointments of our day!
- The Holy Spirit will reveal those appointments BUT we must be listening and seeing!

Action Steps

- Yes we should try to meet the needs of people BUT pray first – money isn't the answer – Jesus is!
- Peter & John didn't just walk by on their way to prayer - they modified their agenda in a moments notice to pray for someone else! (You may have an agenda BUT God may have an add on to your agenda)
- Let's pray for our eyes to be open to opportunities to share Jesus and the boldness to pray & act on the opportunity!