

## 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 have spend time alone with God this week?**
- **What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?**



# **Christian Faith Fellowship**

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**- 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!**

**Luke 2** 8 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, 10 but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. 11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! 12 And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby

wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”  
13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of  
others—the armies of heaven—praising God and  
saying, 14 “Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace  
on earth to those with whom God is pleased.”

## Advent:

**Week 1 Hope**

**Week 2 Peace**

**Today 3 Joy**

- When we talk about “Joy” many think it’s feeling happy or people that walk around with a smile on their face, upbeat all the time.
- There are people with outgoing personality types that will walk around smiling, upbeat, all the while having no idea what Joy is and their lives are a mess!
- The Good News of the Savior was going to bring great joy to all people!
- Obviously this is something available thru the Savior and the message that was being brought!

- Joy is the calm assurance that my soul is right with God!
- It is a place of un-moveable faith that God has me and I have Him!
- When we apply our faith in our daily life and absolutely believe what God's word says – my soul is right with my God – my faith is in my Savior Jesus –

**Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

- I do believe true Joy will bring a smile to your face & give you a quiet confidence that others should see!
- The smile & confidence comes with the assurance of our relationship with God & His having ahold of us.
- Yes we will get sick, yes we will have \$ difficulties, Yes we will have relationship issues BUT do we believe the Good News of the Savior that my heart is right and my God has me in His hand - that He is working through these current circumstances of my life?!!

**James 1:2-4** 2 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. 3 For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. 4 So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing

- An OPPORTUNITY for great Joy... the calm assurance that God has me! That I trust Him and I know He has me!

- It is also an opportunity for worry, anxiety, fear, doubt, anger, etc. to gain access into our heart!
- worry, fear, anxiety, anger & doubt are all seeds the enemy wants to plant in us with the hopes of it growing into full fledged unbelief!
- We experience Joy - when we choose to believe the Good News! When we don't allow those seeds of doubt to take root & instead embrace our faith
- (TJ & Moses, Christine & Mark, you & your situation)

- Here is the Good News to all people – If you have placed your life in His hands by saying Yes to Jesus - then why would you question, doubt, get anxious, fearful and angry when we are confronted with less than ideal situations in life?
- Happy is an emotion - Joy is NOT
- Joy is part of the fruit of the Spirit

**Galatians 5:22-23a** 22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control.

- When we received the Good News of the Savior – we were then filled with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit within us produces the fruit in our lives of which Joy is a product - not an emotion – a state of being based on our relationship with the Creator of the Universe!

## Action Steps

- Have you said Yes to the Good News?
- Have you received the Holy Spirit?
- What in my life is the enemy trying to use to rob me of Joy?
- Right now – in spite of all around me – do I have Joy within?
- Believer – this Christmas Season you need to be modeling Joy to the world – the absolute faith that your God has you!