



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 is called to:

Radiate the love of Christ

Reach the Lost and the Saved in order to

Restore them into fully mature followers of Christ

- **Good Friday (April 14)**: Communion 6:30 p.m.
- **Easter (April 16)**: regular service schedule with continental breakfast between services during Discipleship
- **Baptism Sunday**: April 23, if you'd like to be baptized please fill out a connection card
- **Membership**: forms at the Welcome Center (explain)
- **Ministry Opportunities** are available Connection Cards or bulletin

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 time alone with God this week (With no personal agenda)?**
- **Do you know what the Holy Spirit is saying to you?**
- **Are you giving as God has asked?**

- Tomorrow, April 10 begins Passover on the Jewish Calendar as we begin holy week!
- Last week we looked at the sacrifice of Jesus in contrast to the sacrifice of atonement and how Jesus fulfilled the High Priestly office and was the final sacrifice creating an open door for all of us to come directly before the Father
- Today, as we begin holy week with Palm Sunday's celebration and the proclamation of Jesus being the King (Savior – Messiah)... this is the week the entire plan of redemption comes together!

John 12 12 The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. 13 They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Blessed is the king of Israel!” (Psalm 118:25-26)

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: 15 “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.” (Zechariah 9:9)

16 At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that

these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. 17 Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. 18 Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. 19 So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!”

- The people were gathering from all over for Passover – The Jesus Messiah movement was not rolling!

- There was a growing movement believing Jesus to be the one of which the religious leaders did not agree and wanted to bring this to an end.
- The growing crowds had to do with Jesus healing the sick, casting out demons, feeding them with fish & bread, raising Lazarus from the dead...
- These incredible miracles moved them to declare Jesus as their King – their Messiah
- However, we find, the vast majority of those celebrating this day are doing so on emotion rather than belief...

- This crowd, gathered together for the Passover celebration declaring Jesus as the Messiah – would be the same crowd that in only a few days be shouting for Jesus to be crucified...

Mark 15 6 Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. 7 A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. 8 The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. 9 “Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate,

10 knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. 12 “What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them. 13 “Crucify him!” they shouted. 14 “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!” 15 Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

- We see how quickly a movement can go from Declaring one to be God's Promise fulfilled to be proclaimed as a deceiver and a fraud!
- When Jesus was delivering help for their needs, performing miracles, teaching great stories He was the Messiah... but when He was declared to be a deceiver by people of influence those same people were swayed to believe the “next movement” coming across the culture.... “Jesus was no prophet or Messiah and should be killed”

- In recent weeks we have been looking at the Israelites traveling through the wilderness in the Exodus account and at each and every challenge they faced they complained about the leaders, they complained about their situation, and ultimately blamed God for their situation!
- What we found was – they didn't change... no matter how many times God came through in the crunch... their response to the challenge never changed! Blame & Complain!

- Here today in the accounts of the Triumphant entry and proclamation of Jesus as Messiah & then a few days later the proclamation for Him to be killed for being a deceiver we find people haven't changed much!
- It is here in the crisis of the moment of that we are seen for who we are and what we truly believe!
- For it is in the challenge that are hearts are made transparent and the foundation of our belief is brought to the surface!

Acts 14 8 In Lystra there sat a man who was lame. He had been that way from birth and had never walked. 9 He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul looked directly at him, saw that he had faith to be healed 10 and called out, “Stand up on your feet!” At that, the man jumped up and began to walk. 11 When the crowd saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, “The gods have come down to us in human form!” 12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes because he was the chief speaker. 13 The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the

city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them. 14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of this, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting: 15 “Friends, why are you doing this? We too are only human, like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. 16 In the past, he let all nations go their own way. 17 Yet he has not left himself without testimony:

He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.” 18 Even with these words, they had difficulty keeping the crowd from sacrificing to them.

19 Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead.

- From declaring them as god – to trying to kill them
- When we are following emotion or a movement we are vulnerable to being led astray...

Action Steps

- **What is your foundational belief about Jesus?**
- **What will you do if the movement is met with a serious challenge?**
- **Are you following more than an emotion when it comes to your relationship with Jesus?**
- **What if your life takes a turn in direction and you have to face disease or death – will you trust Him then?**