



# **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 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**

## Accountability Questions

- **Did you spend at least 5 minutes a day – at least 5 days last week reading/hearing the Bible?**
- **Did you share a God story with someone this week?**
- **Did you spend time alone with God this week?**
- **What is the Holy Spirit is saying to you?**
- **Are you giving as God has asked?**

- Thank you Men for being in God's House and taking your place as a spiritual leader!
- For several decades the Christian Church has been lopsided in its attendance and active involvement with women leading the way (thank you ladies for filling the gap).
- In the past 10 years some churches have tried to change this by offering "Cowboy Church" – "Man Church" as well as changing the decorations and ascetics of the church to appear more masculine.

- I believe it's obvious there has been an all out attack on men over the past 40-50 years in our culture.
- The TV Dad is usually the punch line of the family – is clueless as to what is happening – and is the last person you would leave the kids with....
- There has also been a lie told to the ladies – you don't need a man – you're independent – you can lead a family without a man to hinder your life, etc.
- The fact is we need each other... (yes, there are cases of being single that work – I am referencing the whole of creation)

- There are 2 distinct sexes in God's creation of humanity – Male & Female and both have their unique place in God's creation!
- BOTH are revered and honored for who they are in God's master plan – 1 is not better than the other and both are necessary in God's plan!

**Genesis 1** 26 Then God said, “Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.” 27 So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

- We see that when God created male & female He gave them the life call of procreation & ruler-ship (governing) of all that is planet earth!
- He gave us both (male & female) this call and place – therefore together we are to accomplish the call of God for our lives!
- Yes, there are distinct places we each play in God’s plan but the key here is that we are to work together for the completion of God’s master plan.

- Let me be clear on what is needed here for us to be all that we are to be -in our view of the opposite sex -we need a full release of our expectations for them & a surrender of ourselves to God's plan for me.
- When we are confronted with this type of statement there are words that come to our mind: “That doesn't mean I'm gonna...” “If he/she thinks\_\_\_\_, they're crazy cause that ain't happening!”
- We immediately begin to take our stance and most of the time we take that stance because we've been wounded or seen others wounded by a particular act.

- Many today have had abusive or absent fathers... abusive or absent husbands.
- Many woman have been “used” by men as sex objects for themselves and discarded like laundry thrown on the floor.
- Many men and women alike have not had a true male role model in their life and don’t even know what it means or looks like.
- We can continue blaming the past and continue the brokenness or we can surrender to GOD and make a change in this today, beginning with me!

- I was raised in a very male driven – chauvinistic type environment in both church and home.
- I did not agree with the way my father treated my mother & most of the time I didn't want him around.
- When Kim and I got married I began to see myself treating her in the same fashion my father treated my mother... (learned behavior)
- I began to pray – read God's word – and surrender to everything He would lead me to see and understand about myself! **This was not my father's issue – it was mine! I was the one!**

- It's time we stop using the blame game and begin to understand the need of surrender by me!
- **I need to change – Only I can make these changes – these changes cannot be done by me – they can only be accomplished through surrender to Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit!**
- My surrender and change will be a lifetime maturing process of which God will reveal when and what I need to surrender to Him.
- It does and will affect my Christian walk entirely!

**Ephesians 5** When we bring up this text in the Bible everyone starts to get ready for what they do or don't want to hear.... Most of the time people bring this passage of scripture up they want to talk about “the opposite sex”!!

- The men want to talk about what this is saying to the women and the women want to talk about what this means to the men!!
- We don't want to purely examine it as to what does it say to me about my place?!

Every male in the church hear this: **Ephesians 5** 25 For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her 26 to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. 27 He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault.

- Your role or place is to be like Christ- Jesus absolutely surrendered Himself in every way to offer us the chance to have a relationship with the Father

**Romans 5** 6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

- Jesus has done **EVERYTHING** necessary for us... He did not wait until we were worthy (we aren't) – he did not give us a 'to do list' to measure up to in order to receive His gift of love – He did **EVERYTHING** for us while we didn't deserve it!

- Our actions are not dictated by the actions, non-actions, or reactions of the other... we are simply called by God to be like Christ to our wives!! We are to do everything to make them perfect and complete – understanding – it is a lifetime process!!!
- Are you being Christ-like in your relationship to your wife?

Every female in the church hear this: **Ephesians 5 22**

For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of

his body, the church. 24 As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.

- Ladies – have you said Yes to Jesus?
- Ladies – are you waiting for your man to be like Jesus?
- Ladies – your call is to look to your man as the provider of all you need – spiritually, emotionally, & physically!
- You didn't ask Jesus to prove Himself to you before you accepted Him –

- When God created male & female and gave us the planet and everything on it... we screwed it up! BUT – He didn't just trash it all – He gave us a chance to make it right and live the fullness He intended for us!
- Both Male and Female in this room more than likely has screwed up the role that God has intended us to fulfill... He has made a way for us to make it right!
- Through repentance & forgiveness - there is healing and restoration!

## Action Steps

- Men – are you living Christ-like?
- Ladies – are you living Christ-like?
- Everyone – Do you need to repent and ask forgiveness of God? Of a former spouse? Of your current spouse?
- Men: Will you seek to know God's role for you as a male?
- Ladies: Will you seek to know God's role for you as a female?
- Culture has screwed this up and we've been damaged – let's get it right and begin to model this for others!