



# **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 you give?**

- We have been working our way through the month of July dealing with the topic of Change!
- 1 of the 9 core values of my life... I am committed to change: It is always happening! I cannot allow myself to get stuck in “my ways”!
- We need to embrace Spirit led change – not changing for the sake of change or because we “feel obligated” however, obedience to the Holy Spirit is absolutely required and this obedience continues to bring change into our lives as we become more Christ-like growing in our faith!

**1 Peter 1** 13 So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control. Put all your hope in the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. 14 So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. 15 But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. 16 For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

- When we asked if you added a spiritual discipline to your life, it was in order for us to continue to submit and grow in our faith!
- We are called to live a godly – holy life which we can only do through the continued surrender to the Holy Spirit & obedience to what He is speaking to us about!
- The Holy Life we are called to live is impossible in and through our flesh – for through our flesh we lived for self... ***“Don’t slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires.”***

- *14 So you must live as God's obedient children.*
- To live as God's obedient children requires a disciplined mind and it requires the practice of self-control
- Have you had many opportunities to practice self-control this week?
- How do we prepare our minds for action and self-control?
- We are learning to live a new life... a new way of life. A life that is no longer "about me"... but a life that is about Jesus and that means a life about others!

**1 Peter 1** 17 And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as “temporary residents.” 18 For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. 19 It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.



- The judgment or reward according to what “I do” is God holding me accountable to the NEW LIFE that has been provided in Christ!
- There is NO Doubt God expects a new way of living for what He has done and provided for us!
- This new life is the life that lifts up Jesus and allows others to see the Savior in and through our lives!
- As the scriptures continue down through the 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter it expounds upon this salvation of God in our life and then we are brought back to our “expected change in living the godly life”

**1 Peter 2** 1 So get rid of all evil behavior. Be done with all deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, and all unkind speech. 2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, 3 now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

- The growing up... the being done with your old way of living... evil behavior, deceit, hypocrisy, jealousy, unkind speech... this was your old way of living..

**YOU ARE NEW!**

- Crave the new life... strive for what God has for you

- We make excuses for why we can't change... we ask God to take stuff from us and yet we do nothing to submit to the change ourselves! We don't surrender it we ask Him to take it and then we never let go...
- We make excuses as to why I can't read the bible, I can't pray, I can't be in church all the time, I can't join a small group... excuse after excuse and then we use the words "God change me" BUT the only way He can is when we submit to the change and begin to live a **NEW LIFE!**

- If we continue to fall into the same old traps of life and we continue to fail in our spiritual growth it's because we continue to live the same old way we always have!
- We want God to do all the work and we just simply sit there and receive everything!
- Well – He has done all the work – it was done at the cross, the empty tomb and at Pentecost – **NOW WE MUST ALLOW** that work to be completed in us!

*2 Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation.*

- “Growing into” a full experience of salvation!
- Interesting thought: What signs are evident in your life that show a growth... a maturing of the faith... a fuller experience of salvation?
- In thinking of the word picture used here of a baby crying out for feeding... How desperate are you for the fullness of life Jesus died to bring you?
- Have you tasted and seen that the Lord is good? That this salvation is real? That it is powerful and works?

- IF we have seen and experienced this – than, wouldn't it be an expectation to want more? To grow in it? To live the full life we are called to live?
- Why would we stop and be satisfied with what we have if there is more for us to learn, more for us to experience, more of Jesus for others to see in us?
- Church – this isn't a message for those around you or those not here... this is God's message calling you out!
- It's time we begin to live the godly-holy life we have been called to live in Christ!

## **1 Action Step**

- What response is God looking for from you today in light of the truth the Holy Spirit has revealed to you today?