



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

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?**

- Last week, as we read in 1 John, we were seeing the work of God through Jesus Christ in our lives which the Holy Spirit makes possible
- We also saw how the Holy Spirit witnesses in our heart that we are God's
- We will pick up from there and continue in the teaching to the believers in 1 John

1 John 5 9 We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son.

10 Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. 11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

- We KNOW that we are saved and have eternal life because God says so
- It happened by faith when we received Jesus Christ as our Savior
- This new life that we received thru Jesus Christ has been affirmed by The Holy Spirit within us
- This is God's testimony within us – it is greater than any other testimony
- Action Step from last week: Do you have the witness of the Holy Spirit that you are a child of God?

- Our faith in God's work has made the connection which has allowed the new life process to BEGIN in us - this work God is doing in us continues to be a work of faith...
- We MUST know that we are saved and have eternal life and we do because God said so... we take God at His word
- This connecting our faith in this witness-testimony here in the verses is leading us to apply the absolute Faith of our salvation into an understanding of prayer

1 John 5 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

- What we are being challenged to apply here is having the same faith we have in God for having received eternal life as we do when we pray

- Many Christians have lost their faith in prayer because of what we perceive as a lack of God answering or moving
- However, we are constantly asking for things from God that either conflict with His laws or are simply not in line with His will
- God has given people free will and He will not violate His laws – He won't force someone to serve Him or come to Him – He will call and pursue but the individual must surrender themselves just as you and I have

- Christians often pray for healing (and we should), for material things, for ‘peace on earth,’ etc.
- God is constantly working on the eternal purpose and most of our focus is on the here and now
- Let’s re-read that verse again: 14 *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us...*
- There is more at the end of that but we will pause here and consider our requests of God
- Does God hear every one of your prayers?
- Does God ANSWER every one of your prayers?

This is the confidence we have (the same confidence we have of our eternal salvation) in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to HIS WILL, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him.

- When is the last time you KNOW God answered your prayer?
- As you examine your requests over this past week – how many of them had to do with an eternal perspective?

- Let me give you an example of how my prayer has changed: as I pray for our kids – I am praying for them to hear from God – make their decisions based on what He is saying – that they would remain pure in their relationship – that they would grow in their faith – that God would protect them from evil
- After this type of prayer I also ask for the things I want for them – and as I do – I simply surrender “my wants” to the will of God for them
- Let’s look at my brother Mark’s illness... can God heal? Of course! Do I believe God can heal - Yes

- Have I prayed for healing – every day
- At the very same time there is simply no denying God is at work ‘through this disease and illness’ – I could stand here telling you one thing after another that God has aligned for all of this to be where it is today!
- Several weeks ago I asked you to pray for me that I was carrying a heavy burden – it was for my brother’s health.
- I was praying for understanding in healing and telling God “if Jesus was here, He would touch him”

- Do I not have faith enough to believe for healing?
- Am I missing something in my faith that I need to change?
- Is my faith really that small that I can't just simply believe he is healed and he will be?
- As I have sought God in these things – the evidence of the hand of God through this process has increased my faith – in God's work and the need for us to continuously surrender to His will in all things and especially in my prayer!

Action Steps

- Do you have the witness within that you are a child of God?
- As you assess your prayer life - how is your confidence in approaching God?
- Are you wrestling with something within that you simply need to surrender to the will of God?
- Starting today - will you bring your requests thru this passage of scripture – approaching God with confidence – asking God according to His will?