

- Fasting Feb 24-March 7 (1 thing! Games? Social Media? Food Item?) Baptism POSTPONED because our hot water went out – we will reschedule & post the date asap sign up online at our website [cfftucson.com](http://cfftucson.com)
- NEXT SUNDAY: 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary at this campus REGULAR morning worship & a dessert & coffee fellowship @ 5:00 p.m. with 1Church Worship at 6:00 p.m.
- Ministry Opportunities: Ashley & Erik are helping you sign up to serve in Nursery – KidzXP or other areas (in the lobby)
- Welcome Gospel Rescue Mission & our other online community! (Blue Shirts)



**CHRISTIAN FAITH**  
**F E L L O W S H I P**

**We are Not a perfect Church**

**We are Not a Perfect People**

**We are here because we Know we need God's Help**

**We know He has provided that help through Jesus 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? (no agenda)
- Do you know what the Holy Spirit is saying to you?
- Are you giving as God has asked you to give? (T, T, R)
- Did you invite someone to church with you this week (giving out a Come Join Us card)?
- Each 1 Reach 1 Teach 1 (Matthew 28:18-20)



**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**

- Since this is what God has called us to be and do – what part of the mission does God have you serving in?

- Last week we read in Romans 12:3 “...*Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves...*” then I asked you to rate your Christian life 1-10
- Action step: What 1 thing can you do to start working at moving up 1 number?
- Since God has called us into a life of growth (Disciple) we are all growing into Christlikeness- We should be reflecting Jesus more and more all the time as we grow in Him.

**Ephesians 4** 11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. 12 Their responsibility is to equip God's

people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. 13 This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. 15 Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. 16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the

other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

- We are being told that Christ has given gifts (not spiritual gifts but people with Gifts are the gift) *Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers*
- These gifts are to “*Equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.*”
- What are you currently doing to “*build up the church?*”
- The Church IS the Body of Christ and CFF is 1 expression of that body. This is the place God has brought you and therefore, you should be expressing Him in some capacity, through CFF!

- This serving is an ongoing part of our Christian life and it is what helps us mature into Christlikeness!
- Ministry opportunities abound: Nursery, KidzXP, Café', Security, Hospitality, Worship team, Tech Team, OUTSIDE the doors: Gospel Rescue Mission, Teen Challenge, Teens on their Own, Hands of Hope, etc.
- The opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus are everywhere! But - it's not about 'you' doing it for 'you'! It's about doing it for Jesus thru His expression of the Body here at CFF!
- THIS IS HOW you mature into Christlikeness – Spirit filled – Spirit led – Servant hearted Follower of Jesus!

- This equipping/engagement of service *‘will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.’*
- SO, where are you? If the standard is Christ (10) – and it is - how are you doing & where do you need to change/grow?
- Where can you serve in a way that would create a servant heart in You? (The heart of Christ!) We are challenged to GROW UP
- *“then you will no longer be immature like children. We won’t be tossed & blown about by every wind of new teaching.”*

- The very center of sin is ‘**self**’
- Sin entered thru people wanting to love their way and not God’s – therefore, selflessness (Christ-like) is the maturity we are being called into!
- Our sinful self is broken and in need of healing through Jesus Christ.
- This healing begins at salvation! But it **ONLY BEGINS** – Salvation is the doorway into a life of **GROWING** in this relationship that has a goal in front of us: **CHRIST IS THE STANDARD!** This **GROWTH** is a healing of our brokenness (self-centeredness)
- Have you arrived there yet?

- Since we have not yet arrived– we need to be looking for ways to GROW and surrendering self in the process is how that growth takes place!
- SERVING – is meeting the needs of those around you
- Jesus – lived the Father’s will at all times – with a continual reaching out to meet those needs
- He was not a door-mat but a servant hearted leader who did the Father’s will in meeting the needs of others.
- *14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won’t be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.*

- There are so many false teachings... false teachers of the Bible... false beliefs and practices – we can get confused and just go back and forth
- One of the ways we can distinguish false teaching from truth is this: “If it appeals to the flesh it is most likely false” (Self-centeredness)
- Most false teachings promote: It’s ok to live like you want – it’s ok to do what you want (Self/flesh is the core)
- That does not mean Christianity doesn’t appeal to us – false teachings appease and feed self – Christianity FULFILLS self by denying self and serving others
- Jesus was teaching His followers: Matthew 16

**Matthew 16** 21 From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead. 22 But Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things. “Heaven forbid, Lord,” he said. “This will never happen to you!” 23 Jesus turned to Peter and said, “Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God’s.”

- When we view life from a human point of view we lose sight of God's plan and will!
- Peter was speaking and acting like many of us do... 'you don't have to go through that... you don't have to do that!'
- Yes – sometimes you do that AND sometimes you will!

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. 25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. 26 And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?"

- Jesus plainly challenges us: *“If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me...”*
- While this does not make sense in our human logic - it is never the less truth: Giving up our way and taking up our cross IS THE WAY OF LIFE
- THIS LIFE is the life we are seeking...
- THIS LIFE of Jesus is NOT ‘hard’ AND it is also NOT normal
- If living the Christian life is hard – it’s because you are still trying to live it through self – when you follow the Holy Spirit’s lead – it is not heavy and hard - Jesus said so!

**Matthew 11** 28 Then Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”

- Serving with the heart of Jesus – in order to accomplish God’s plan and purpose is what it’s all about and it should not be heavy!
- That does not mean it won’t cost you something – it does – it costs everything! ALL IN – the cross we take up is the ‘death of self’ but it brings the resurrection power of God!

## **Action Steps**

- Are you a born again follower of Jesus Christ?
- Fasting Feb 24-March 7
- Where are you serving to develop into the standard-Jesus?
- Where Can you serve to mature into Christ-likeness?
- Are you feeling burdened down by your serving? Are you truly serving for Jesus or for self?
- Jesus didn't jump for joy to wash the disciples feet but rather taught them to not think of themselves above any act of service