

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 exists to Know Christ and to make Him Known!

Living the Faith

- **Are you spending at least 5 minutes a day at least 5 days a week reading your Bible?**
- **Have you shared your conversion story/or a God story?**
- **Are you hearing what the Spirit is saying?**
- **Did you spend some alone time with God this week?**

- **The Christian church in America is struggling in accomplishing the Great Commission that Christ left with us!**
- **Last week we talked about taking "baby steps" sharing our faith by talking to our family & friends about our God story!**
- **Today – we celebrate the day God's Promise was fulfilled in the New Testament Church – the Day of Pentecost!**

- **The Old Testament Feasts were leading toward God's redemption plan of Christ.**
- **Today is the Feast of Pentecost, Feast of Weeks, or First Fruits!**
- **It has 2 connections in its celebration!**
- **God's people were to count 49 days after Passover and celebrate with Thanksgiving the First Grain Harvest! It was also at this time that they celebrated God giving Moses the Law on Mt. Sinai.**

- **In God's perfect Plan this celebration was about the First Harvest and God's requirements for a relationship with humanity!**
- **Acts 2 is the Day of this celebration and the Day God would send the Holy Spirit down to have the *First Harvest of the Redeemed* by revelation of the plan of Salvation through Christ which would *open the door for a relationship with God* for all humanity!**

Acts 2

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[languages] as the Spirit enabled them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and

Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

- **If you have been around the Christian Church the discussion of Acts 2 – Pentecost – usually revolves around the word "tongues" or "languages"**

- **I don’t want to spend a lot of time here because we will lose the true purpose and focus of what God was and is doing here…**
- **It is clear the “gift of languages” given by the Holy Spirit was UNDERSTOOD by EVERYONE in the assembly!** ***7 Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?***

- **When you hear about “tongues” it is not understandable by everyone. Therefore, it is NOT the same as here in Acts 2!**
- **Instead of focusing on this, let’s instead focus on the main point of the N.T. Pentecost!**
- **Peter stood up & preached to all the people God’s plan - he gives Old Testament Prophecy about these events & tells them this plan of God - the death & resurrection of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins!**

22 “Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. 23 This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. 24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

- **Peter shares more prophetic scripture from the O.T. and then again brings home the MAIN POINT!!!**

36 “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

- **The Point of Pentecost was the introduction of the Redemption plan of God for all humanity!!**
- **The death and resurrection of Jesus – our need of repentance & baptism for the forgiveness of sin!**

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

- **3000… First fruits! The first harvest of those who entered into that relationship with God through Jesus Christ!!! THIS is what Pentecost is all about!!!**
- **The Story is ALWAYS about Jesus!**

Personal Application

- **Have you heard and responded to the message that God loves you and He has a plan for the forgiveness of your sins and a new life?**
- **In Sharing your God story – is Jesus the center of it?**
- **Continue to make it part of your prayer that God will open the door for you to share your God story!!**