Accountability Questions

- **Did you spend 5 minutes a day at least 5 days last week reading the Bible?**
- **Did you share a God story with a non-believer this week?**
- **Did you have spend time alone with God this week?**
- **Have you kept your New Years spiritual goal?**
- **Do you know what the Holy Spirits saying to you?**
- **Are you giving as God has asked?**



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!

- **I am going to go cowboy again for the closing week of Rodeo! (Video)**
- **Last week we talked about the horse in a round pen and the willful surrender that is necessary to enter into a relationship… the picture of our relationship with God.**
- **When God calls us into relationship there is a surrender and obedience that we must step through all fears, doubts, confusion and simply step in surrendered, trusting, obedience.**

- **It is here the connection takes place and we begin our relationship!**
- **As we shared that connection moment – we were also stating – this is the BEGINNING of the work**
- **We have not arrived at connection – there will be times & places of surrender that will continue to take place throughout the relationship.**
- **Using the horse as an example: Walking into a trailer; taking a saddle, taking a bridle, taking a rider, riding outside of the arena, crossing water, riding in a group, riding alone, etc.**

- **What I'm saying is – the moment of relationship begins a life time of trusting surrendered obedience!**
- **I'm riding my horse (3 ½) she sees a pile of brush - it's been there for over a month in full view of her pen - but now she's outside the fence, and I'm asking her to walk next to it and I'm on her back**

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

- **Remember – the horse is a prey animal and it believes everything out there is trying to eat it… what her natural instinct is – run away from the perceived danger!**
- **What is happening is her brains first reaction is run… I'm on her back giving her ques to move forward and go past!**
- **Words of encouragement and pressure in her sides**
- **I'm asking her to Trust me – don't trust the message in your head – don't rely on old instinct – that's not who you are now!!! We've got this!**

- **Some of you here today have been fighting with the voice in your head that has been trying to get you to respond to the tight spot you are in by turning to your old ways!**
- **Let me encourage you – TRUST in the Lord with ALL your heart and simply push past this obstacle that seems to be in your path!!**
- **Step over, around, thru, whatever it takes – You can Trust Him!!**

Isaiah 43:1b-3a 1…"Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. 2 When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. 3 For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior…

- God promises to be with us thru the deep waters, thru the fires – thru everything we have to face in life! We must TRUST Him no matter what!

- **When I ride up to an obstacle that she will not pass – after encouragement etc. I get off and walk in front of her so she can see it's ok – then remount and move forward again with encouragement, pressure in the ribs, and maybe a little more emphasis on expecting her to walk by!**
- **I don't know what you are facing right now but today God wants you to NOT allow "fear" to paralyze you or cause you to turn and run… He is calling you to Trust Him and move forward… it's ok if there is hesitation**

- **You may hear voices in your head saying run! Don't do it… you are a failure… you ALWAYS run… you always fail… you can't… God wants you to know TODAY is the day you can push pass that barrier in your life that has been keeping you in the place you are in for this season of your life!**
- **Look, we need to not worry about what the next obstacle might be, the next test, etc. Today we need to simply trust Him and move past what's right there in front of us NOW!**

Acts 10 9 The next day as Cornelius's messengers were nearing the town, Peter went up on the flat roof to pray. It was about noon, 10 and he was hungry. But while a meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. 11 He saw the sky open, and something like a large sheet was let down by its four corners. 12 In the sheet were all sorts of animals, reptiles, and birds. 13 Then a voice said to him, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat them." 14 "No, Lord," Peter declared. "I have never eaten anything that our Jewish laws have declared impure and

unclean.” 15 But the voice spoke again: “Do not call something unclean if God has made it clean.” 16 The same vision was repeated three times. Then the sheet was suddenly pulled up to heaven. 17 Peter was very perplexed. What could the vision mean? Just then the men sent by Cornelius found Simon’s house. Standing outside the gate, 18 they asked if a man named Simon Peter was staying there. 19 Meanwhile, as Peter was puzzling over the vision, the Holy Spirit said to him, “Three men have come looking for you. 20 Get up, go downstairs, and

go with them without hesitation. Don't worry, for I have sent them."

- **Peter had never done this before… he'd actually been taught that it was wrong! BUT God said do it – TRUST ME!**
- **What is it that you are hesitating about?**
- **What is it that you just can't seem to get past?**
- **What is it that is keeping you from pushing forward and taking the next step in your walk with God?**

Action Steps

- **Romans 15:13 I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.**
- **We are facing "IT" right now… The Holy Spirit is encouraging you… spurring you on to move past this perceived barrier in your path… Will you surrender and TRUST Him today?**