

# North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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4/3/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part  
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## **FREEDOM!!!**

**"Finally brethren..."**

Paul's summary is magnificent; it discloses his heart and his encouragement to those who continued to struggle (like we all do); it reminds us to "rejoice" together, for "the God of love and peace" is with us!

### **The Value of True Faith**

Faith is the only way to understand the supernatural things of God.

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The beauty of faith is that it also gives us a transcendent peace. (Pro 12:20; Is 26:3; Jn 16:33; Ro 15:13; Php 4:6; 2Th 3:16; Heb 12:14; 1Pe 5:7)

### **2Co 13:11**

*Finally, brethren, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.*

### **1Co 13:14**

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*

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### **Heb 11:1-2 [Message]**

*The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, set them above the crowd.*

### **Faith**

How is it that a young, ever-sickly child has more faith and is able to find a greater peace with their ailments than the adults in their life? By faith they have accepted their lot.

### **Faith**

We're all born spiritually ill. Though we are eternally cured at salvation, with the

absolute hope in deliverance from our sickly bodies, we are still strapped to this "body of death" (Ro 7:24).

### **Faith Issues**

We don't combat a lack of peace with more isolationism.

### **Jn 14:27**

*"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."*

### **Finding Peace Through Faith**

The same Man who sends us out into the world (Jn 17:18) is the same One who gives us peace (Jn 14:27)! And since "God is not a God of confusion but of peace" (1Co 14:33), we must reconcile these two facts - our freedom depends upon it.

### **Faith's Perspective**

When we have faith, we have peace. Faith may very well be the most beautiful thing ever given to us after Christ, Himself (who we receive by faith).

### **Faith's Perspective**

We aren't stressing out about "how to become" sanctified...we simply rest assured that He already HAS sanctified us! That is the key issue with faith. Faith and sanctification are so intrinsically bound, we might loosely think of them as almost "the same".

### **"sanctified by faith"**

reveals the nature of our sanctification; at salvation it is "by grace...through faith" (Eph 2:8-9), which sets the pattern for sanctification ("from faith (positional) to faith (experiential)" - Ro 1:17).

### **Why Are We Still Here?**

What does a "sanctified" believer "do"? If they are "being" and "living" righteously "by faith", what might their primary fruit be? The answer is simple - Mt 28:18-20.