

# North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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4/5/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part  
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**2Co 5:7**

*for we walk by faith, not by sight*

**2Ti 4:5**

*But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

Live each day with your calling in mind, which includes the Great Commission.

BE the love-filled person He's calling you to be, and go for it. He is with you, and in you.

**2Ti 4:5**

*But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

Sanctification is being who God has made you to be. To be full of faith, full of hope, and full of love is the greatest thing we could hope our lives become. And if we are full of those things, He will use us for mighty good works along the way, as part of our sanctification.

A child, more than any other person, lives in pure faith, unashamed hope, and fearless love.

That's what God has in mind for each of us, His children.

**"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!

**Jas 4:6b [Message]**

It's common knowledge that *"God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble."*

**The Value of True Faith**

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)

**Is 26:3**

*"The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts [has*

*faith] in You."*

### **2Co 13:11 [Amplified]**

*Finally, believers, rejoice! Be made complete [be what you should be], be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace [enjoy the spiritual well-being experienced by believers who walk closely with God]; and the God of love and peace [the source of lovingkindness] will be with you.*

### **2Co 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.*

Faith is not only comfortable with the unknown, but is abiding (at home) with the unknown!

Lacking peace? - You're lacking faith.

Lacking faith? - You're lacking humility (you're BEING arrogant, not BEING humble).

### **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.

**When we believe Him, we have His peace.**

### **Sanctification becomes us!**

Ro 1:17 "the righteous man shall live by faith". Surrender and gratitude become our sanctification - it's realizing that He's changed us.

### **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".

When we BELIEVE the things that God says He has done in us, that's when we experience sanctification. The act of believing takes us into the realm of being set apart for Him, even as we traverse the devil's world.

### **"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.