

North Christian Church - Pastor Ed Collins

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4/21/16 - The Gospel, Salvation, and Sanctification - Part
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"qualified"

from hikanoo - means to be made sufficient; made adequate; render fit; be made able (competent)

On faith, we accept things our flesh cannot understand.

Finding Out Who You Are ("in Christ")

Stay humble (Jas 4:6) and keep hearing (Ro 10:17)! We're destined to be deceived otherwise. The flesh is a brittle instrument of unrighteousness, never able to provide convictions that last, never able to afford true security (only eternal life's perspective can do that).

1Co 12:11

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

"just as He wills"

means that God didn't make a mistake when He created you JUST THE WAY YOU ARE!!! Embrace the simple truth that you are "wonderfully made" (Ps 139:1-16, v14).

PTEJC FB Post

God has taught me one very important lesson: hate sin, but love sinners. I figure if I can do just this one thing, I'm doing OK. I know because that's how Jesus lived..."

1Co 12:11

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Rationalizing and Doubt

Human rationalization inevitably leads to doubt. It's slippery in the sense that you don't realize how your "walk" is being undermined. Meanwhile, the flesh

encourages us to dismiss our good consciences and ignore the Spirit's convictions (cp. Ro 14:23; Jas 1:6).

Walking Through the Door

Faith is like a "key". If grace is "behind door #1", then faith opens the door, walks through, and receives said grace. Regarding "walking" (2Co 5:7; Gal 5:16, 25): when stripped of options, it's all we can do...and it's all we need to do!

Heb 3:13 [Amplified]

...by the deceitfulness of sin [its cleverness, delusive glamour, and sophistication].

Mt 13:46

and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

Why?

The answer to the question, "Why am I not walking in a way that I know is pleasing to God?", is simple...it's a lack of faith. The remedy is oh-so simple: Faith comes from hearing (Ro 10:17) and God gives grace to the humble (Jas 4:6). It's not an intellectual/doctrinal issue, it's a spiritual/humility one.

The Gospel is simple!

Love Has NO Desire to Stratify!

"Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant" (1Co 13:4).