

When we come together (our faith in action)

1 Corinthians 14:26, "How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying." The purpose of our fellowship is to edify or build up I started with this scripture to remind ourselves why and for what purpose we come to a fellowship

We are meant to remind each other in songs, teachings, sit with interpretation and info God gives us to build each other up. In fact never a truer word was spoken to me then people don't care what you know until they know how much you care it is a fact of life that people will not always get on in this world and it can be true that people are very hard to please however we are called to a higher purpose then just pleasing ourselves God wants us to please him, how do we do this? **Hebrews 11:6, "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."** The people of the old testament knew this but their faith required a series of rules that needed to be followed and very few men were found to be faithful to take God's word where it needed to be with the people. The people that God lists of his who's who in the list of believers is quite short considering how many people have been called to serve since Adam and all of these people had not been privy to the promises we hold so dear (read Hebrews 11v 1-40)

Galatians 3:22-26, "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." The scripture here is not trying to say there was no faith it is saying before Jesus came we could not have the faith of Jesus Christ because it wasn't available yet .People of that day had trust and confidence in God and some believed so much he could work with them it was very hit and miss then God wanted to be able to do things for his creation on a more permanent basis. How do we get it? **Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."** This is how it comes And its purpose is to change your lives and that of those around you This is why we have the faith of Jesus so we can remove the so called mountains in our life. God also knows how difficult our culture and the days of our times are going to be however the faith we need does not need to be big in **Matthew 17:20, "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."** **Luke 17:6, "And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you."** Jesus said unto him, **If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.**

Mark9:2 The sycamine tree of the New Testament is the black mulberry. Its edible fruit is similar to the fruit of fig trees. The root system of a large sycamine tree is impossible to uproot, even by an experienced dozer operator. So our faith, trust, belief, is strong and does the impossible **1 Corinthians 2:5, "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men,**

but in the power of God." 2 Corinthians 5:7, "(For we walk by faith, not by sight)" we walk by trust Galatians 2:20, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." This brings me back to our fellowship and the reason we have it to bring to our remembrance Galatians 5:6, "For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."

When we come together we are to love one another and our faith which builds as we believe what we hear is affected by the love we show faith and love work hand in hand here

Ephesians 3:17, "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love," Galatians 6:10, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." 1 Thessalonians 1:1-8, "Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing." we want to be like these people of Thessalonica Paul was so blessed instead of focusing on problems and troubles of the day they focused on God's word and were great examples so much so Paul didn't even need to say a thing 2 Thessalonians 1:3, "We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet, because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth;"

Faith and love are marks of a growing vibrant Church Our faith and our love towards each other makes a difference to the world we live in .

Love you Sue Murphy-Hennessey