

When Hearts Collide Part 3: Faith

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **When Hearts Collide**
- **Recap:** The Scriptures describe believers “receiving” a spirit. The Holy Spirit.
 - o Realize there is more than just an intellectual side to your walk with Christ, there is a spiritual side to it too. Seek and receive!!
- Fruits of the Spirit: **Galatians 5:22-25**
 - o What would your life be like if you fully attained the fruits of the Spirit?
 - o The shortcut to feeling good is the sinful nature: **Galatians 5:19-21, 1 Corinthians 6:18-20**
- **This Week: Faithfulness**
- Faithfulness is really just “faith.” It is “faith” in the Greek. (Gal 5:22)
 - o Same word and tense as **Matt 9:20-22.**
 - o Is your picture of “faith” is a little different than “faithfulness?”
- Faith is very interesting since it is a fruit of the Spirit, a gift of the Spirit, and a spiritual discipline/personal responsibility! (Can you think of any others that are all three??)
 - o I hadn’t noticed that before! This may be a cause of confusion for some.
 - o Fruits of the Spirit:
 - All believers should have all of them, but God adds these to us.
 - Our responsibility is to put ourselves in a position to receive/grow these.
 - o Spiritual Gifts:
 - Vary from believer to believer and over time according to God’s plan.
 - Believers do not get to choose what gifts they get from God, but we can seek specific gifts. Still, God determines these.
 - Your gifting determines your role in the Body of Christ.
 - o Spiritual Disciplines:
 - All believers are to walk in God’s ways. Walk by faith/trust God for example. (read your Bible, go to church, give, pray, etc)
 - You choose to do these. They help you receive the other two!
 - o How could this cause confusion in your opinion?
 - Ex: Waiting for a Spiritual Gift vs pushing into a Spiritual Discipline.
- Faith as a fruit of the Spirit.
 - o When Hearts Collide: when God’s heart hits our heart and changes us!
 - o Does God need to have faith?
 - He has faith in you. God created you. Jesus died for you. The Spirit is here for you!
 - Is God’s faith in you misguided? The risk is worth it to God your Father.
 - God has faith in us as a group. That we will work together and be His hands and feet.
 - o Faith as a heart condition: Shield of Faith. **Ephesians 6:16**
 - When circumstances can’t shake your faith, you are safe from heart arrows!
 - But, faith in God also gets results that change our circumstances! **Matt 9:20-22** again.
 - Maybe that is more of a Spiritual gift? Thoughts?
 - True faith is faith in God, not faith in faith. Find a Biblical promise!
- Faith is a choice, it is a gift, and it is a fruit.
 - o You can choose to say yes to God.
- Once you have put your faith in God, faith can still be an issue.
 - o Help me overcome my unbelief. **Mark 9:24** (Read the whole passage.)
- Pray for each other before you finish up!