

One Faith

Back to Basics | week five

October 18th | Christian Putman



Opening Verse: *John 3:16-17*

Series Review:

Week 1: Jesus' Church

Week 2: What is a Disciple

Week 3: Stages of Growth

Week 4: Spiritual Maturity

Week 5: One Faith

Preview verses:

- ***Jude 1:3-4***

Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people. I say this because some ungodly people have wormed their way into your churches, saying that God's marvelous grace allows us to live immoral lives. The condemnation of such people was recorded long ago, for they have denied our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

- ***Hebrews 1:1-2***

Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son.

- ***2 Peter 1:3-5***

By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises.

KNOWING THE FAITH

CORE BELIEFS THAT MAKE UP THE CHRISTIAN FAITH:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Authority of Scripture | 4) The Atonement of Jesus |
| 2) The Trinity | 5) Salvation By Grace Through Faith |
| 3) The Person of Jesus | 6) Loving God and Others |

LIVING THE FAITH

Verses: *Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:1*

The first church had a hard time living this out:

- We are called to be united, not divided over personal preferences.
- Moving forward together, living for Jesus because of what He has done for us.
- Maturing beyond disagreements and personal preferences.
- Growing in our faith and becoming equipped to contend for the faith.
- Standing firm in biblical truth, not arguing over personal preferences.
- Not moving from church to church because of preferences, but staying focused on Jesus and His mission.

Verses: *Ephesians 4:11-16*

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Verses: *John 8:31; 1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 2:23-26*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What does Jude 1:3 mean when it tells us to contend for the faith that was entrusted to God's people once for all time?
2. Why is it important for Christians to know and understand the core beliefs of the Christian faith?
3. What is the difference between salvation by grace through faith and trying to earn our salvation through good works?
4. According to Romans 12:1-2, how should our lives change in response to everything God has done for us?
5. What are some personal preferences or secondary issues that Christians allow to create division in the church today?
6. How can we distinguish between essential biblical truths we must stand firm on and personal preferences where we should extend grace to one another?
7. According to Ephesians 4:11-16, how does growing in spiritual maturity help us become more united, recognize false teaching, and stay focused on the mission of Jesus?
8. How can we contend for the faith while following the instructions in 2 Timothy 2:23-26 to avoid foolish arguments and speak the truth with kindness, patience, and love?

