



Credibility, Confidence and Contentment "3-C's of Faith"

Beach Side Fellowship

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Liberty or License

"Just Because You Can, Doesn't Mean You Should"

God didn't make pre-programmed robots. He blessed man with the gift of free-will to live as he sees fit. This made man accountable for the decisions that he makes. Man has Liberty. Liberty is a two-edged sword. It can cut away bad or cut away good. Liberty says you can... Accountability askes whether you should. Three areas where you must guard your Liberty:

- THE LIBERTY OF GRACE in not a License to sin; Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue to sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! Don't allow Grace to become an excuse.
- THE LIBERTY OF YOUR NEW IDENTITY is not a License to offend others; **1Corinthians 10:25-33** *Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being.*

Who you are in Christ should appeal to others.

• THE LIBERTY IN JESUS is not a license to play with fire; **Gal 5:1** Stand fast in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

Old things can come back if you get too close.

God in His infinite wisdom deemed that He would allow you and me to think for ourselves. He knew that we have a rebellious streak in us, yet He loves us enough to allow us to make our own decisions. Believer, God loves you and as your loving Father, He wants the best for you. Choose to; Honor Grace, Cherish your Identity and to Stand fast in Christ.

Blessings, Pastor Gene

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Introduction: Hebrews Chapter 11 is sometimes called the "Faith Hall of Fame". This masterpiece of Scripture extols godly men and women of faith of the Old Testament. Like a great cloud of witnesses, they stood on an unshakable faith as they endured trials, persecution and even death. Unshakable-faith in the One True God bound these believers together and they obtained a good testimony that to this day serves as inspiration to the modern-day men and women of faith. Let us consider three things concerning faith:

- By faith we have CREDIBILITY in the sight of God; Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and the He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. God, in His graciousness has established the way that estranged-man can be reconciled back to Him and that path is only through Jesus. Faith in Jesus as you Savior gives you credibility in the sight of God.

 You can only get to God through faith in Jesus.
- By faith we walk in CONFIDENCE in the abilities of God; **Philippians 4:13** *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*. The ability to do all things speaks of endurance and accomplishment. Sometimes just getting through something and coming out the other end better than you went in is a great victory. In Christ; all mountains are scalable. Sometimes victory is manifested by a change of heart.

If a weight is too heavy it's because you haven't given it to Jesus.

• By faith we have CONTENTMENT in the provision of God;

1 Timothy 6:6-10 Now godliness with contentment is great gain.

For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. Contentment is dependent on your perspective, principles and priorities and must not be measured by comfort or position. If you always gotta' have more, you will never be content. It you spend your time looking over your neighbor's fence, you will never be content.

It takes just as much faith to be on top as it does to be on bottom.

As Christians, when we speak of faith we understand that we are referring to our relationship with God. God is Spirit and you are spirit. His Holy Spirit is in communion with you because you are a person of faith in Jesus. Because you have faith, you have CREDIBILITY with God, whom is not pleased with those who don't have faith in His Son. Because you have credibility you can approach His throne with CONFIDENCE. The mark of true godliness is to be CONTENT, because all is well for those who are in Christ.