

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, July 12, 2015
Changing Church Challenges 2015
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TEXT: 1 John 4:1-4 ...You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. 1 Corinthians 14:26 / 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22
1 Corinthians 12:7 MSG Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!

The end is near! The world we live in has some serious issues. Our job is to overcome by the power of the Spirit in us, and not be deceived. We took a look at our response to the threats of ethnic strife and Islam. We looked at the danger we face in a sexually perverse society. Now we are discussing the battle against the free flow of the Spirit in the Church. Today I want to revisit the "how to" as we move on to the next step – the fullness of the supernatural in the church

- ❖ **Want:** Every congregation gets what they really want
 - When you come to church, what are you expecting, desiring, and believing?
 - Come looking to be motivated and encouraged Hebrews 10:24-25
 - Come looking to be corrected, rebuked, and encouraged with good teaching. 2 Timothy 4:1-2
 - Come prepared to be used. 1 Corinthians 14:26
 - Come with a passion for God to move in the way that brings the maximum benefit to people and glory to Him. 1 Corinthians 12:31 / 1 Corinthians 14:1, 39
- ❖ **Worship:** God inhabits our praise. Invite Him to your service!!!! Psalms 22:3
 - Do it when you don't feel like it. Hebrews 13:14-15
 - Do it in tongues! 1 Corinthians 14:15 NLT (15) Well then,
- ❖ **Wait:** Act like you expect God to speak
 - Don't be ignorant. Gods that can't speak are idols. 1 Corinthians 12:1-3
 - Isaiah 46:6-Gods that can't speak can't help.
 - Shut up and wait for Him to speak. Habakkuk 2:19-20

- ❖ **Weigh:** Try the spirits whether they be of God
 - Try the source, and try the submissive spirit of the speaker 1 Thess 5:20-21 / 1 Cor 14:29,40
 - Weigh carefully every manifestation - Not every utterance is of the Spirit. It may be of flesh or a wrong spirit. 1 Thess 5:19-21
 - We are instructed to be on the lookout for false prophets. Matthew 7:15-20 / Acts 20:29,30
 - Sheep are submitted, not secretive. Beware the parking lot prophet.
 - Wolves have secret revelations greater than the pastor.
 - We are instructed to test content of the prophecy.
 - Does it glorify Christ? Rev 19:10 / John 16:13,14 / 1 Cor 12:3 Does it glorify Christ or exalt a man?
 - Does it agree with scripture? John 6:63 / Rev 22:18,19
 - Does it lead me toward God and the Word or toward other gods? Some prophecies may seem accurate, but they espouse gods other than Jesus. Deut 13:1-5 We try the spirits based on what they say about Jesus. 1 John 4:1-3
 - Does it bring freedom or bondage? 2 Corinthians 3:17 / Romans 8:15 / 2 Corinthians 4:13
 - The Spirit of God encourages us to faith.
 - Prophecy is not a means of controlling other people: God will hold you responsible for what He said to you, not what someone else said that He said.
 - Does it agree with the witness in my spirit?
 - 1 John 2:20,27 You have the Spirit of God.
 - Rom 8:14 Be led by the Spirit, not personal prophecy.
 - New Testament prophecy should confirm or encourage or clarify that which we have in our spirit. We will each stand before Jesus to give account of what He told us.
 - Run every word through the filter of the written Word, the witness on the inside, and the confirmation of the authorities in your life.

**"I love the Holy Ghost because
He is everything to me the Father said He would be."**

Pat Harrison