

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## *Bringing The Kingdom*

### **Matthew 10:8-20**

**10:7**, "And as you go, preach, saying, **'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'**"

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**Everything we say & do as His disciples...**

- should **demonstrate**, and/or **offer** the kingdom...
- A living **invitation & welcome** into the kingdom
- Our **life in the kingdom** should look inviting
- **The kingdom is a living reality**

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Jesus is demonstrating **what He taught in Ch. 5-7**

- Then sending us out to follow His example

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**10:8**, "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. **Freely you have received, freely give.**"

- Just as He did, **John 5:19 & 20:21** (Not of His own initiative)
- "He (**HS**) will take of what is Mine and declare it to you." (**John 16:14**)
- God's impartations pass from **the Father**, to **the Son & through the Holy Spirit**

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Jesus **possessed** every spiritual gift

- He used them as directed, both **when & when not to**
- The beggar at the temple (**Acts 3:1-7**)

**"Freely you have received (just now), freely give."**

- We don't possess the gifts, but **actively receive** them...
- As they are entrusted to us **by the Holy Spirit**
- The Spirit works all of these, **distributing to each person as He wills. (I Cor. 12:11)**

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**10:9-10**, "Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food."

- As with the miraculous, so also with the practical...
- **Completely depend on God** for every need.
- Forsake all self-sufficiency (**Matt. 6:19-21, 24 & 31-33**)

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**10:11**, "Now whatever city or town you enter, **inquire who in it is worthy**, and stay there till you go out."

- Look for an active good testimony
- And cultivate relationships
- **Acts 16:11-15, Lydia**

.....  
**"And stay there till you go out."**

- Establish **lasting** relationships
- **Jesus brings full relational commitment with Him**
- So should we, in His behalf
- Don't be a spiritual butterfly

*I John 4:17-19, Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because **as He is, so are we in this world**. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. **We love (Him) because He first loved us.***

- Love loves first (**Matt.22:37-40**)

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**10:12-13**, "And when you go into a household, **greet it**. If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you."

- **Offer your genuine relationship. Be authentic.**
- You're there in Christ's behalf
- **Set the tone you hope to cultivate**

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**"If the household is worthy**, let your peace come upon it."

- If genuine relationship is offered in return
- Real relationship is reciprocal, **not required**

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**"Let your peace** come upon it."

- "Set at one again", Absolute relational safety & security
- The peace **"Of" God, in Christ**, with each other  
(**John 17:20-24**)

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**That peace is the testimony of the kingdom**

- **Given freely** by The King
- **Offered freely** in His behalf
- **Matthew 5:9**, "Peacemakers"

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**"But if it is not worthy**, let your peace return to you."

- If not receptive & reciprocal, or contrary

**"Let your peace return to you."**

- Don't establish yourself in an inhospitable environment
- Don't start someplace vulnerable to contention (**Psalms 1:1**)
- Leave in good graces, with your peace unchallenged
- We are offering peace, not defending it

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**10:14**, "If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, **shake the dust off your feet when you leave** that house or town."

- **Don't carry any un-peaceable contention with you**
- Leave it behind

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**10:15**, "Assuredly, I say to you, it will be **more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah** in the day of judgment than for that city!"

- Sodom and Gomorrah did not have the light Christ's life
- These will have been offered & rejected His life and love

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**John 1:4, 11 & 3:19**, In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.... He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. (**10:5-6**)

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

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**10:16**, "Behold, I send you out as **sheep** in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

- Sheep, going where your Shepherd leads
- To **occupy in His behalf**, as with Him
- Examples of trusting faith (**8:23-26**)

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**"As sheep in the midst of wolves.**

- **John 20:21 & Psalm 23:5**
- Knowing the environment will be hostile
- Do not fear (**Psalm 23:4**)
- You have seen My power (Over the storm & the demoniac)

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"Therefore be **wise as serpents** and harmless as doves."

- Cunning, vigilant & **skilled at avoiding danger**
- Snakes seem to know the world hates them
- I don't know if Paul understood this clearly

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"Be wise as serpents and **harmless as doves.**"

- Not as aggressively, to conquer
- No one feels threatened by a dove
- The very picture of the Spirit of God (**Matt. 3:16**)

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**10:17**, But **beware of men**, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues.

- Adam's first offspring murdered his brother, who was obeying God
- **Matthew 7:13-14**, Most choose the wide gate & broad road
- **Matthew 12:30**, Not receiving Him is opposition to Him

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"They will deliver you up to councils **and scourge you** in their synagogues."

- Those who love darkness feel **exposed by the light**
- Like Cain, some want to **extinguish it**

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**10:18**, "You will be brought **before governors and kings** for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles."

- Government officials who believe they are the ultimate authority in life
- They do not submit to God's authority, or those who obey Him
- Hitler killed Bonhoeffer, and worked to coopt or silence the Church

.....  
"Before governors and kings **for My sake**"

- **Matt. 5:10-12**, Be sure your stand is **FOR Me!**
- Not some civil, political, or private cause
- Don't do **in My name**, anything I would not
- **Jesus is not a campaign endorsement**

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"As a testimony to them and to the Gentiles."

- As testimony to **who He is**, and **who we are (Acts. 1:8)**
- That God's family is not a racial identity (**Matt. 12:49-50**)

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**10:19-20**, "But **when** they deliver you up, **do not worry about how or what you should speak**. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; **for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**"

- "When they deliver you up" ... **not if**. So be prepared
- **Philippians 4:6-7**, Replace your anxiety with God's own peace
- **Matthew 4:1-11**, Jesus already set our example, "**It is written**"

.....  
"For **it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**"

- **John 16:13-14**, "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for **He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak**; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for **He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.**"

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**John 14:26**, But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**

- So, give Him something to work with
- **Spend time in God's Word**
- **Psalms 119:11 & Romans 12:2**
- Fill the pantry of your heart & mind with His Word

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What is the most important part of Christ's demonstration of power?

- The power of **what He does?**
  - Or the power of **who He is?**
- .....

He is turning a big corner, **handing His power to His disciples**

- There are three points to taking a race car through a corner
- **1) Entering the corner, 2) the apex of the corner 3) exiting the corner**
- They, and we are the car. **The Holy Spirit is the driver**

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He has taken them & us into the corner

- **We're at the critical point of the apex**
- Preparing to exit the corner on the straightaway
- He wants us to **come out strong!**

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On a racetrack, the **preparation of the car is critical!**

- Our driver, the Holy Spirit, knows what He's doing
- But a poorly prepared car can go in the ditch with the best driver
- Jesus is giving us **His own Power**

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What will be the most important part of **our use of His power?**

- **What we do, or who we are?**
- Which will determine how we use what He has entrusted to us?
- Many are captivated by what we do, more than who we are

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**I John 4:17-19**, Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because **as He is, so are we in this world.**