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**“Finding Faith – Part 1”**

***1 Corinthians 13:13***

**Pastor Peter Nikkel**

**Coast Hills Community Church**

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**1 Corinthians 13:13**

Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love.

**Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT)**

6 And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. 7 Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

**Hebrews 11:1-6 (NLT)**

11 Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. 2 Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. 3 By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen. 4 It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel’s offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith. 5 It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—“he disappeared, because God took him.” For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. 6 And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

**I. Finding faith - what are we looking for?**

**What determines how we experience God?**

* The sovereignty of God factor.
* The calling factor.
* The gifting factor.
* Last but not least, the FAITH factor.

**Joshua 24:15 (NLT)**

15 But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve.

**Deuteronomy 30:19-20 (NLT)**

19 “Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! 20 You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him.

**Romans 10:17**

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

**Definition:** Faith is a way of thinking about God and his Word: thinking positively, confidently, expectantly, and reverently, about God and his plan for us.

**II. Applying faith - what area of my life needs it the most right now?**

**Important question: If you were to die today are you sure that you would go to heaven?**

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (NLT)**

8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

**1 Corinthians 10:31 (NLT)**

31 So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

**Colossians 3:17-23 (NLT)**

17 And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

**Colossians 2:10 (NLT)**

10 So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.

**Romans 8:37 (NLT)**

37 No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

**Philippians 4:13 (NLT)**

13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.