**Adult Sunday School**April 1, 2012

**faith is an excellent work of God in us**

2Th 1:11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the **work of faith** with power:

* “that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all”
* “the good pleasure of his goodness”

Php 2:13 For **it is God which worketh in you** both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

* “it is God which worketh in you”
* “to will and to do of his good pleasure”

Heb 13:21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1Pe 5:10 ¶ But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

* “Called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus”

2Co 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

Ro 8:18 For I reckon that **the sufferings of this present time** are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

The work of God is **excellent in us as we believe**

1Th 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which **effectually worketh** also in you that believe.

The work of God will be strange until He has taught us his way; until He is allowed to do what He wants in us, with us, through us and for us.

Isa 28:21 For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act.

Isa 28:26 For his **God doth instruct** him **to discretion**, and **doth teach** him.

Isa 28:29 This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is **wonderful in counsel**, and **excellent in working**.

Love makes faith work to fullest potential Gal.5:5-7

Php 1:9 ¶ And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

Right Knowledge and good judgment set high marks for a growing and discerning love.

Love never focuses upon *good feelings*. Feelings are never the focus—What then is the focus?

* The focus of true love is right knowledge.
* The force of love is good judgment
  + The word means intelligence or discernment.

We not only want to know a person but we want to learn all we can about that person.

We want to gather all the intelligence and facts possible and discern them so that we can please that person.

There are three reasons why we need a love that grows more and more.

1. Growing love is needed to approve things excellent.

It is not enough just to know what is right.

growing love will stir us to choose the excellent and the best.

1. Growing love is needed to be sincere and pure.
2. Growing love is needed to keep us from causing others to stumble.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, **neither are your ways my ways**, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are **my ways higher than your ways**, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Jeremiah 6:10 To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it.

Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Isaiah 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. 11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. 12 To whom he said, **This is the rest** wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and **this is the refreshing**: yet they would not hear.

Acts 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

Mt 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the **times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord**;