****

**“Finding Faith – Part 1”**

***1 Corinthians 13:13***

**Pastor Peter Nikkel**

**Coast Hills Community Church**

**November 8, 2015**

Read Colossians 2:6-7; Hebrews 11:1-6

Serendipity warm up exercise: As you consider the people in your LIFE Group, what’s one positive adjective you would use to describe each person?

1. In the definition of faith in verses 1 & 6 of Hebrews 11, what verbs describe faith? What is the object of these verbs?
2. Is our faith directed toward the future, toward the present or both?
3. Pastor Peter gave this definition of faith: “Faith is a way of thinking about God and his Word; thinking positively, confidently, expectantly, and reverently, about God and his plan.” In what ways does this resonate with your understanding of faith? What is your own definition of faith?
4. If having faith is a choice, why is it that many people whine about not having enough faith?

(Deut 30:19-20; Joshua 24:15; Rom 10:17)

1. What determines how we will experience God in our life generally, our ministry, and our miracles? Discuss Peter’s four point proposal:
* The sovereignty of God factor
* Our calling
* Our gifting
* Our faith (& obedience)

Which of these do we control?

1. Why is it important (or is it?) to avoid comparing our faith experience with that of others? What do you think is often the result of making such comparisons?
2. In what area of your life do you need to exercise faith thinking right now? (Assurance of salvation, overcoming past mistakes, dealing with personal sins, making an important decision, resolving relationship issues, overcoming discouragement, other…)
3. Read and reflect briefly on these faith building truths: Col 2:10; Rom 8:37; Phil 4:13.
4. What are you currently doing to help you to grow in faith?