

V. ARE YOU MOVING FORWARD WITH FAITH THAT GROWS?

“but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—“ Ephesians 4:15

A. Vision one: unity of faith.

“till we all come to the unity of the faith ...”
Ephesians 4:13a

B. Vision two: maturity like Christ.

“...and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”
Ephesians 4:13b

C. Vision three: stability in doctrine.

“that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,”
Ephesians 4:14

D. Vision four: activity by everyone.

“from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”
Ephesians 4:16

MID YEAR SPIRITUAL CHECK UP

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A. Our church theme this year is Forward By Faith! We are now half way through 2021. It is a great time to examine our progress.

“Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD;”
Lamentations 3:40

- B. God has not called us to just move forward. He commands us to move forward by faith!

What is faith? Faith is confident obedience to the Word of God regardless of circumstances or consequences.

Faith in God fuels spiritual growth. You are either moving forward by faith or backward by fear.

- C. **TEXT:** II Corinthians 5:7

AKE 2021 A YEAR OF MOVING FORWARD BY FAITH!

FIVE QUESTIONS FOR MOVING FORWARD BY FAITH

I. ARE YOU MOVING FORWARD WITH FAITH THAT SAVES?

“What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?” James 2:14

Saving faith is based on what you do.

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”
II Corinthians 5:17*

*“9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved
13 For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”
Romans 10:9,13*

II. ARE YOU MOVING FORWARD WITH FAITH THAT EMBOLDENS?

“He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God,” Romans 4:20

A. Bold faith is birthed from the Word Of God.

*“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
Romans 10:17*

B. Bold faith is based on the Character Of God.

*“ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”
I Corinthians 2:5*

C. Bold faith is built for times of adversity.

*“If you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength is small.”
Proverbs 24:10*

III. ARE YOU MOVING FORWARD WITH FAITH THAT GOES?

*‘For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.’
I Thessalonians 1:8*

A. Give to send missionaries who go.

B. Pray for others to become followers of Jesus.

C. Tell others that you are a follower of Jesus.

D. Invite others to become followers of Jesus.

IV. ARE YOU MOVING FORWARD WITH FAITH THAT UNITES?

*“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”
I Corinthians 1:10*

*“Unity does not mean uniformity. It means ONENESS OF PURPOSE.”
-- Dr. Tony Evans*