

Defenders of the Christian Faith Movement, Inc.
Regional Convention S.E.T. (S) 2022
Conference, Strengthening Churches, Ps Hector Romero
Theme: Firm in the Faith

Introduction

A **foundation** is defined as a principle, a base, a root, an origin.
It is defined as a basic principle of a science, or of a theory.

- That is, the foundation is a principle where all things are sustained.

and when we met Jesus.... **we knew the true foundation**

- John 1:3 says: "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made."
- **We exist** for Him, **we live** for Him, **we breathe** for Him

Our life has meaning because of Him; he brought us out of the well of despair and put our feet on a solid rock.

We are founded on the truth of Jesus, He is the way, the truth, and the life

Today as a church, as the organization Defenders of the Christian Faith... we can say as in

- Act 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Jesus is not only a foundation; Jesus **is the Foundation**.

- Matthew 7:24 Therefore whoever hears these words of mine, and does them, I will compare him to a h. wise that he built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, and the rivers came, and the winds blew and beat against that house; and it did not fall, because it was founded on the rock.
- That is why after 77 years this organization is still standing.... Cause it's founded on rock

❖ Having BELIEVED has positioned us on the foundation

And Jesus (**told to those who had believed in Him**)

- John 8:31 "...If you remain in my word, then you are really my disciples; (and consequently) v32 you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

And faith comes by hearing, the word of God... we have heard it... we have believed it

Not only that, but also, we have remained in it... firm in the faith

We knew the truth of Jesus, through faith, and the truth of him has not set us free

Each of us, although we are many, are one in Christ

Our faith in Jesus has constituted us, in a SINGLE body, it has constituted us a single church

Today we are gathered as the Defenders of the Faith Movement....based on the truth of Jesus

We are here, in this place, in the name of Jesus... only by Faith..... **WE BELIEVE as it says in...**

- Ephesians 4:5 "One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

And “We”, as the body of Christ, need to **equip ourselves...** How? With knowledge...

- Through the knowledge of the Word-2 Timothy 3:17, says: “That the man of God **may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**”

And “We”, as the body of Christ, we need to **TRAIN...** and I'm going to tell you why!!!

I. Enemies of the faith... (Human capacity to believe and its limits)

And this great faith, which we have received by Grace, is threatened for different reasons.

among them is disbelief, lack of faith, discouragement, afflictions, temptations, distrust, weaknesses, among others.

And the devil cunningly takes advantage of our human incapacities and weaknesses
To make us believe that our faith is founded on the sand and not on the **ROCK**

And we are not only founded on the **ROCK** (Jesus)

And for us as a church, we have had to live in a world where knowledge has advanced

Today, the technological advances prevails, reasoning prevails, logic prevails;
this society lives according to the result of its correct calculations, lives according to the result of their correct measures

Currently, we are a church that lives within a society, where things must make sense!!

And when we hear news of war, scarcity, corruption

We forget that although we are in this world, we are not of this world

Our faith in Jesus is so, so, so opposite to this world that the Bible says in:

- 1 Corinthians 1:18 “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”

That is, whatever I think with my knowledge through faith, it's a crazy and meaningless idea for this world.

- **Challenging our senses**

Somehow God is challenging all our senses... **and I'll tell you why.**

God has given us intelligence, wisdom, knowledge, intellect, the capacity to manage of our knowledge and He gave us the power to achieve and develop what is in our hands.

This is, the human being (we) were created by God

With a total degree of intellectual independence

God created us with the ability to have our own judgment, to think for ourselves.

But he also created us with the ability to believe... with the ability to have **FAITH**

and when our intelligence, when our wisdom runs out

when our knowledge ends, our ability to believe begins to emerge

And constantly, to us as a church, the society is challenging us to manifest our ability to believe.
beyond the **limits of our senses... LET ME EXPLAIN**

II. RATIONAL LIMIT

God created us with some limitations ...

This is, it doesn't matter how intelligent we are, our intelligence **will have a limit.**

No matter how much knowledge we have, our knowledge **will have a limit.**

No matter how much capacity we have, our capacity **will have a limit**

..."WE HAVE A RATIONAL LIMIT"

Proverbs 2: 6 says:

“For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.”

This means, that all of us will reach where our limited capacity allows us to reach

We will all get where our limited knowledge, capacity, and intelligence allow us to go.

Be prepared, because if you have not yet arrived to your limit, you will soon **reach it... Let me explain...**

a) WHEN WE REACH THE RATIONAL LIMIT

Reality / what's going on	Rational Limit	Faith in God (manifested)
When there is no more knowledge	Our intellectual capacity and intelligence stopped by lack of information.	When there is no more information to analyze, there is no capacity for analysis, calculations, probabilities, empirical We arrived at our BORDER LINE
EXAMPLES		
Incomplete projects, difficult processes, unexpected events, impacted by bad news, loss processes	We don't know what to do, the world falls on us, we don't see a way out	there is no way out, uncertainty, desperation, we need a miracle, hopelessness, we do not see or feel God

And this is where **we as a church have to make a decision.**

or we stayed on the border line... or we start to believe, to believe

this is when we discover our ability to have faith

precisely where there are no possibilities

Place of uncertainty	When we move by FAITH, WE MOVE FORWARD
Where I am there are no probabilities	With God we will walk according to his knowledge, according to his plans, according to his decisions, it will be an absolute and total dependence on HIM.

God has always intended us to be a moving church

That we believed and walk **beyond our rational limits**

He is constantly inviting us to go beyond what our eyes can see.

Now we can understand why the Bible defines faith, as... Hebrews 11:1

RV60	is the substance of things hoped for	the evidence of things not seen.
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Faith is... to have Certainty, Security, Conviction; is to be Convinced

- In what? Well, precisely in the things that **we do not see, but we expect**

- **And what we expect and don't see is beyond our limits.**

Example #1, Exodus 14:14-16 The action of Moses places him on the edge.... Let's see

- **Reality** (the moment)
 - They were trapped between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army.
- **The rational limit**
 - The options were to surrender or jump into the sea and swim until drowning.
- **The Faith in God** (manifested)
 - Tell my people to move forward, to march... (**action**)
 - v15 speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward (**miracle**)

2 Corinthians 5.7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) (knowledge)

- God invites us to put aside our sight (knowledge)
- 2 Corinthians 4:18 "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

Example #2 Case of Abraham (Genesis 12)

But Jehovah had said to Abram, "**Leave** ... your land and your kinship, and your father's house, to the land I will show you.

- **The reality.... 75y, without descent/offspring**
 - He had a bond with his land, home and parents and family members.
 - God asked Abraham to make a radical and absolute decision.
 - He said:..... Leave, leave your land, leave your family, leave your parents' house
- **Our Reality (Church)**
 - Listen to me well... we are His **church and we belong to God**
 - We were bought at the price of blood
 - He gave everything for us and the only thing God asks of us...
 - that as a church we give everything for Him, that we make radical and absolute decisions
- **The rational limit**
 - Abraham's limit was to believe or not believe, to obey or not obey.
 - It was a decision without turning back, there were no **agreements, there were no exceptions.**
 - God asked Abraham for everything, and He asks us to give him everything
 - Abraham's only choice probably was to say no

Listen to me DCFM church

God asks us for everything... only like this, we will depend on him.

Only like this, we'll develop trust

- **Faith in God** (it manifested)
 - 4 **And Abram left, as the Lord said to him...**
 - It's not just that Abraham left, **it's that he left, as God told him to do.**
 - there was a detachment, a disconnection, between what he left and the promise that God gave him

III. BELIEVING IN HIS PROMISES

We as a church must understand that even though we are in this world, we are not from this world, and Jesus also made us the most powerful promises in the world.

- Matthew 28:20 says:
“I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen”
- John 14
2 “In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.**”
- John 16
33 “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me you might have peace. **In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**”
- Act 1
11 “Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? **this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven**”

Moses and Abraham moved in faith, because they decided to believe in God, beyond what it's reasonable
How much are we willing to believe God?

IV. THE PRACTICE OF OUR FAITH

Abraham, Romans 4

What he saw..... 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead

- **weakened by what he saw**

What he believed.....20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God

- **He didn't hesitate because he believed**

Trusted Him.....21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

- **He had confidence in God**

We know that **we trust Him**, we know that we **wait on Him**, and we know that we **rest in Him**.

And we know this, and we are sure about this, but we must put in practice our knowledge regarding faith.

James 2

- 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.
18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy **faith without thy works**, and I will shew thee my **faith by my works**.

The knowledge of the church will become effective when we decide to manifest our faith despite our rational limits, on the impossible things.

Conclusion

Let's delegate our direction, goals, plans

Let's see the power of the church

- Year 70 Jerusalem was destroyed, and Christians scattered
- During the first 3 centuries of the Christian Era, Christians were persecuted, tortured, and killed

The logical reasoning tells us that these events would end the church and its faith in Jesus. But, ironically and out of all logic, the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied. Something "**INEXPLICABLE**" to the world, but logical to us through FAITH...

As the Body of Christ, we have two (2) choices in front of us

1. Either keep walking towards **what we don't see**
2. or stop along the way with **what we know**

and it is there that we reach our rational limit when the church begins to **MANIFEST** an **absolute faith in Jesus**

And today we are gathered here in this convention, to **EQUIP OURSELVES** and to **GET SKILLS** because in addition to faith, there are other areas such as

- **love, unity, brotherly love, the gospel, love for God, Joy the Word of God and the hope in Him**
- **that we must learn**

DCFM Church, Jesus is the base and foundation of our faith... and He called us DEFENDERS of the CHRISTIAN FAITH MOVEMENT because the focus of this organization is to defend and remain firm in the faith.

1 Corinthians 3: 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ

- **we believe in Jesus by faith, now and beyond our rational limits**
- **Let us stand firm in the faith.**

CHURCH, LOOKING ON TO JESUS, AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH

(Dynamic) Close your eyes

Beyond your path, where our human vision can't reach, we will see Jesus through Faith.

Guide texts

John 11

40 "Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

Hebrews 11

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hebrews 11

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

Keep the Doctrine

2 Thessalonians 2

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.

Standing firm

Philippians 1

27 Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit,^[a] striving together as one for the faith of the gospel

Fight for the faith

Jude

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, **and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints.