

January 28

Hebrews 3:6 (NIV) ⁶ But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.

When Cornerstone was birthed over 25 years ago, we received help from two other ministries to help us find not our way but the Lord's way. One of those ministries placed a gentleman who had pastored before over us to help the body get established. After a year, he approached me and said that his time was over and that he was to turn the church over to me. He told us that one Sunday morning and did not return. I struggled with that decision because I was not qualified or ready. Once the news broke, one person in the body told others to run because Cornerstone was a sinking ship. Rumors spread that we were nothing but a cult who was meeting in the high school auditorium. Over the next few months, one family after another left. I was discouraged, doubtful, and confused. Finally, with people continuing to fall away, someone asked me what we were going to do. I said, "God did not tell me to abandon ship, so we are staying."

This devotion is not really about Cornerstone or my ability. This passage from Paul contains that one word that can change life in an instant: IF. Paul does not say that Christ remains faithful IF we hold firmly to our confidence in Him. No, Christ is always faithful. Hope in Him never disappoints. He will never fail us or forsake us. During these turbulent times, when more and more are falling away from the one faith and creating doctrines that tickle the ear, Jesus promises that IF WE hold firmly to our confidence in HIM, then our hope will never disappoint. We are the ones who need to hold onto Him because He will never let go of us. IF we hold firmly to His truth, to His promises, to His way, we can be confident that we are His house, a house that cannot be shaken. When we chose not to abandon ship, we had no idea what that meant or where it would lead. When we do not give up and turn away from Christ Who is always faithful, we can have complete confidence that He will sustain us.