

**FAITH: EVIDENCE OF
THINGS NOT SEEN**

Parent Formation – Session I

October 30, 2024

WHAT IS FAITH? HOW
DO I LIVE OUT MY
FAITH AS A DISCIPLE
AND AS A PARENT?

Community Building Questions

- Share encounters with the faith and explore Catholic symbols of faith

Scripture and Small Group

- Explore the nature of faith and its necessity

Explanation

- How do I live faith in my day-to-day life?

Explore supplemental resources



COMMUNITY BUILDING QUESTIONS

- Do you have anyone who has been a model of faith for you?
- What has been a time you have experienced the beauty, truth, or goodness of the faith?
- Look at the symbols of the mountain top and the growing seed. How do these give us insight into what faith is?

HEBREWS 11:1-12:3

Encountering God through His
Word

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does this passage define faith?
2. How are faith and community related to each other?
3. What does this passage reveal about Jesus Christ?



HANDING ON THE FAITH

The faith of parents is the top indicator of whether children will develop faith and carry it into adulthood.

THE CREED
THE FAITH IS
A STORY.

IT IS
HIS-STORY

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.

Amen.

THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

- Creation
- Evil
- Forgiveness
- Adoption

THE CATHOLIC FAITH IS A FAITH OF SECURITY

Forgiveness is God's solution to evil.

Good triumphs over evil.

There will be a resurrection for all the faithful.



Find times to place
yourself in this security.



A hand is shown from the bottom left, reaching upwards. The background is a bright, hazy sky with a sun at the top and a faint rainbow arching across the middle. The overall tone is warm and hopeful.

FAITH IS NECESSARY FOR SALVATION

Both believing in God and living the obedience of faith are necessary for salvation.

We must protect faith by:

- Avoiding choices and influences that weaken or threaten belief

- Nurturing faith by prayer, community, and study



ZELLIE
MARTIN –
MOTHER
OF SAINT
THERESE

“Oh well, that’s the day so far, and it’s still only noon. If this continues I will be dead by this evening!”

MARK 9:20-25

They brought the boy to him. And when he saw him, the spirit immediately threw the boy into convulsions. As he fell to the ground, he began to roll around and foam at the mouth. Then he questioned his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” He replied, “Since childhood. It has often thrown him into fire and into water to kill him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” Jesus said to him, “‘If you can!’ Everything is possible to one who has faith.” **Then the boy’s father cried out, “I do believe, help my unbelief!** Jesus, on seeing a crowd rapidly gathering, rebuked the unclean spirit and said to it, “Mute and deaf spirit, I command you: come out of him and never enter him again!”

*I WANT TO - WANT TO
BELIEVE*

“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the ‘birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.’”

Matthew 13:31-32

Wonder

Trust

Obedience

FAITH

UNITE YOUR
SUFFERINGS TO THE
PASCHAL MYSTERY

Fatigue – Jesus carrying of the cross

Sorrow – Jesus' agony in the garden

Confusion – Christ's desolation on the cross

Unreconciled love or lack of gratitude – scourging at the pillar and crowing of thorns

Jesus came for you.

For your responsibilities, your sorrows, your joys, your needs – these are why He came.

IN THE ACT OF FAITH, BY
GRACE, THE WILL MOVES
THE INTELLECT TO ASSENT
TO DIVINE TRUTH.

- Faith is a supernatural act that always involves the following process:
 - God reveals Himself and His plan.
 - God gives us a grace to respond. (He touches your heart!)
 - Our wills assent and cooperate with this grace. (We choose)
 - The will moves the intellect to believe
 - Make an exterior action or refrain from a damaging action

PRACTICALS

- Find ways to ground your own faith
 - A space in your home such as a crucifix or sacred art
- Have a sacramental such as the Rosary
- Find Bible verses that resonate with you and keep them in mind
- Unite the normal everyday happenings to the life of Christ
- Find times to share your experiences of the faith with your children
- Point out elements of the faith to your children, help them see the world through the lens of faith

FAITH CHALLENGE

The word *Amen* means “so be it.” It is an act of faith!

Explain faith to your child and give him or her an example of an act of faith from your own life. Have them count the number of times we say ‘Amen’ in the Mass.

Deeper Dive: learn about these Amen’s together! Why do we make acts of faith in these particular times during the Mass? What are we saying we believe at those times?