

Faith

Lesson 4 Summary

Lesson Learning Objectives

- The participants will describe what faith is and what it means to be a person of faith.
- The participants will gain a better understanding of the Church's creeds and how they relate to a life of faith.

Content Summary

1. God's Revelation of himself, particularly in the person of Jesus Christ, is his invitation for us to be in a loving relationship with him and with one another.
2. Faith is a personal act. Each person is free to believe or not to believe in what God has revealed. But belief is not an isolated act. No one can believe alone.
3. Having true faith means believing everything that God reveals; it does not mean picking and choosing the things we want to believe.
4. Christian faith is the human person's response to God's loving invitation to believe in him. Faith means giving yourself completely—heart, mind, and will—to a loving relationship with God. Faith also means believing in, and being part of, the Church, which is the Body of Christ here on earth.
5. Faith is not opposed to science. God created both physical reality and spiritual reality, and the two can never truly conflict.
6. Faith is necessary for salvation. Without faith we would cut ourselves off from God, and that would mean no salvation.
7. A creed is a brief summary of beliefs. As Catholics we use creeds to affirm our belief in all that God has revealed.
8. God has given you the gift of faith, but only you can decide to accept that gift and act on it.

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