

Faith: Some Important Connections

In silence, answer all but the last question by yourself. The last question will be answered in small groups.

- What evidence can you share that illustrates that you are a faithful friend and someone others can trust?
 - Describe a time when you trusted or had faith in another person. Did he or she come through with what you hoped or expected?
 - Would you describe faith in its most basic sense as a relationship, as knowledge, or both?
 - Why does faith in other people and in God require confidence and trust, even when you cannot physically see the one in whom you are placing your trust?
 - How can healthy human relationships help you to strengthen your trust in God?



- How can a deep knowledge of Jesus Christ help you to develop a more mature faith and to improve the quality of your relationships?
 - Is it important to know and be an active member of the Church in order to know Jesus fully, or can you just worship Jesus on your own? Explain your answer.
 - Friends sometimes disappoint us; nonetheless, we often have faith in them in the long run. Is it also possible to trust and have faith in the Church even when we learn about the failures or sins of some people within the Church? Explain.
 - The faith of the Church has been handed down from generation to generation—from Jesus to his Apostles to us. Knowing this truth, do you think it is possible to have faith in Jesus Christ without the Church?

Your group will answer the following question. Choose one member of your group to present your response to the class.

- What connection is there between personal faith and the faith of the Church? Are both needed, or are your own personal beliefs sufficient? Explain your response.

