



Faith – In what?

*“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” – Hebrews 11:1. The writer of Hebrews provided insight to Jesus’ response to Thomas when he put his hand in His side. Jesus said, *“Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”* - John 20:29.*

Dad - Underline the likelihood of your dad talking of or reflecting his faith in Christ:

In the home;	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
At church;	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
With extended family;	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
In the workplace; and	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>
In the neighborhood/community.	...	...	<i>low</i>	...	<i>so-so</i>	...	<i>high</i>

Student - Circle a rating on the likelihood your dad exemplifies today for each category.

(Dad - encourage honesty and listen well to the ratings. Accept affirmation and steer clear of being defensive.)

Dad - Give a specific example on where you rated your dad *high*, and another where the rating is *low* or *so-so*.

Discussion time:

Faith is:

Confidence in what we hope for - God being at work in all things; Strength in Christ; Relationship with Christ; His will for our lives; and relevance for the word of God in this world.

Assurance about what we do not see - Existence of Heaven & hell; empowerment through the resurrected Christ; indwelling of the Holy Spirit; forgiveness; Way, Truth & Life; and Jesus’ return.

While we may know what faith is, the tendency is to put faith in other things - in the ability to perform; in friendships; in a doctor’s opinion; in the person driving next to us on the road; in family. Faith in such things will disappoint.

Dad - Discuss what you have put your faith in.

Family - How has your parents’ faith influenced you?

Dad - Discuss what you have placed confidence in.

Family - What assurance have you received physically or emotionally.

Family - Discuss how you can keep this dialogue going.

We commit to: _____

Prayer guide: Lord, I have faith in You but I confess that most days I do not live that faith. I am the man I have faith in. Forgive me. Help me walk in the confidence that You are God and exemplify my assurance in family that Jesus opened the door to relationship with You through His death on the cross, His resurrection and ascension, and that He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in us. Amen.