



Saint James AME Church  
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Newark, NJ 07102  
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Ronald L. Slaughter, Senior Pastor

Community Bible Study Outline

11:00 AM

July 18, 2018

## What Does God Want From Us?

God has to tell us what He wants from us. He tells us in His Word - the Bible.

Faith is the foundational thing. If you don't start giving God faith, you will never give Him anything else.

The first thing God wants from us is faith. We cannot please God without faith because we cannot know God without faith. God sent His son Jesus so we could not only believe in God but also know God, please God, and pursue God. The only way to live on this side of heaven is to live a life of faith in God.

- Nobody will change your life like God, but even God will not completely change your life until you place your faith in Him.

"The road to a relationship with God is paved with the cement of faith." - James Merritt

Early Christians were called "believers."

### Quotes about faith

"Doubt is putting your circumstances between you and God; faith is putting God between you and your circumstances." – James Merritt

"Faith is eliminating every fear you have except the fear of God."

"Faith is taking the first step before God reveals the second step."

Everybody demonstrates faith. What makes faith a big deal is what you put your faith in.

Why?

**Hebrews 11:1**

- **By faith we perceive God.**

“Reason defines one kind of reality (what we know); Faith defines the kind of reality we don’t know.” – Lisa Miller, Newsweek

“Universities are about reason pure and simple. Faith—believing something without good reasons to do so – has no place in anything but religious institutions and our society has no shortage of these.” - Steven Pinker- Harvard Psychologist

We are not Christians because of blind faith.

Faith is not believing something in spite of what you think is true; it is believing something because you have reason to believe it **is** true.

Confidence, Substance and Assurance (evidence or legal proof)

**Hebrews 11:3**

- **By faith we please God.**

**Hebrews 11:6**

- **By faith we pursue God.**

**Points to Ponder**

What is it in your life are you exercising faith for?

**Notes:**

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