

Faith and Religion

What is the difference between faith and religion? While it is very important to understand the difference between religion and faith, faith is not about having the right answers. Faith is a feeling. Faith is a hunch. It's a hunch that there is something bigger connecting us all together. And that feeling, that hunch, is God. When we gather for Mass, we come together to connect with that feeling, that is an act of faith. When it is used in our everyday world, we use it with a sense of trust. That means faith shows how much we trust someone or something. When it comes to the religious sphere, faith consists of the belief in God. This can simply be the trust that someone has in the teachings of their religion. Faith is usually accompanied by hope. This is because when we use the word faith to show that we trust someone, we are hoping that our trust is placed correctly. If we study how faith is built, we can see that faith is built on that belief. Faith includes our beliefs, but it is bigger than that. Faith requires action. If it doesn't move us to do something or say something, can we really call it faith? Until we take action our "faith" is just a bunch of words. Religion refers to the community of people who share similar beliefs. They work together to provide both support and accountability for living up to those beliefs. Most of the religions in the world are based on Gods, yet the people who follow these religions have never seen God. Nevertheless, they have a steadfast trust and confidence in God. This belief, trust and loyalty to God is called faith. Faith is the basic foundation for many religions in the world. Thus, faith paves the way for hopefulness and optimism. -Sherrie Clutts DRE