

**“Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1**

There are many things in this world that we do not understand. Many teachings of the church seem irrelevant or outdated. Most often the reason for this, is because we don't understand or never took the time to learn why the church teaches this or that. Do we seek the answers to our questions? Do we believe that God will answer them?

**“Ask something of me and I will give it to you.” 1 Kings 3:5**

**“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7**

It can be very difficult to understand the language of the Bible. What is Jesus talking about in that parable and why does it matter today? These and so many more questions are ones that we all ask from time to time. But did you know that the church holds all the answers to these questions? For centuries the church has been studying the teachings of Jesus and the Word of God in both the new and old Testaments, finding new ways for people to connect with God and grow deeper in faith.

**“Call to us now, and we shall awaken...” Marty Haugen Gather Us In**

We might find ourselves saying: Well I just don't have the time, or I go to church on Sunday, isn't that enough? How important is our faith to us? Is our relationship with God the most important aspect of our lives, or does it seem that God ends up taking the back burner more often than not?

**“All that you possess will never set you free. Seek the things that last; come and learn from me.” Marty Haugen Where Your Treasure Is**

**“Blest are they who suffer in faith, the glory of God is theirs.”  
David Haas Blest Are They**

There is no greater accomplishment in this lifetime than to experience the love and to share that love with others by the light of our lives. Nothing is more rewarding, more comforting or essential while on this earth. To know the vast wonder of God's love, the depth of His creation and how you fit in. Is there any else more worth your while than to know more about our Father...

**“I give you a heart so wise and discerning...” 1 Kings 3:**

God,

*I don't always understand what You are trying to say to me. I don't always understand the Scriptures at Mass, or why the Church does the things it does. So help me now to increase my faith by learning more about why I believe what I believe. Create in me a fire for the knowledge that comes from Your word and from the teachings of the church. Strengthen me in my faith, so that I might live it boldly for all the world to know the power of Your love.*

Amen