

How Faith and God are Shown Through My Family's Daily Life

By

Juliet Choi

Struggles, struggles, and struggles again. As Christians, we face worldly problems every day, but our faith in God is what brings us together. What does it mean to have faith and how can we distinguish between “fake” faith and a strong faith in God? As my dad would say, “Be thankful even for the darkest moments, have faith.” How can I be thankful for the bad things I would ask. It is because of our strong faith that we can be thankful. We must realize that God is the almighty God, the one who provides all things; therefore, there is no need to be in doubt during hardships. As we grow more thankful and see the blessings He gives, we develop a stronger trust in God.

It is a privilege for me to have grown in a household that loves the Lord, praises His creations, and meditates on the Bible. However, sometimes school life can get in the way of my time with God, a time to build a true relationship with Him. As much as my time put into my education is important, my daily life with God is worth prioritizing much more. For instance, instead of studying an extra hour for a test, I would spend around 15 to 30 minutes memorizing and reading the Bible. That extra hour of studying could make a difference in my score, but spending time with God's word can make even more of a difference, which builds my faith that God provides.

A way to communicate with God is through prayer. I believe prayer is a key component of me and my family's daily life with God. A chance to talk with God upholds our relationship

with Him because without prayer it is impossible to have a true relationship. With that being said, every day my parents gather my siblings and I together to end the day in prayer.

Every night, my family and I have daily bread. The word of the Lord that fulfills us like bread (food) fulfills us. *Our Daily Bread* is a Christian devotional book with daily stories we read from. It gives us stories to relate to each day and a chance for us to share our thoughts together. I look forward every night to read a new story and to have a short discussion, spending time with my family and most importantly, God.

A story in *Our Daily Bread* that spoke to me was in the month of April on the 28th called “Growing in Faith”. It taught me to be patient and to trust God with my problems. April was one of the most challenging months because I had a lot going on, especially with state testing. I was reminded to have faith through this statement, “God will sometimes allow us to go through challenges and hardships so that we can be molded into who He’s called us to be.” I am so thankful for the encouragement I received from having family time and being blessed with this message.

My parents encourage my siblings and I to participate in a yearly Baptist Church competition for memorizing, reciting, and finding Bible verses called Bible Drill. Honestly, sometimes it can become very stressful from all the pressure and competition I have to handle, yet later on I come to the realization about how awesome this program is for young believers like me and my siblings. Focusing on memorizing a bible verse everyday has helped me to apply my knowledge of the gospel into the real world. My family has been involved in this program for 9 years now, for me 5 years, and many verses have still stuck with me to this day. One of the verses I know by heart and love is Matthew 28:19-20, “Go therefore and make disciples of all

nations...” Jesus’ commission for us is so impactful and it motivates my family and I to share the gospel to our community.

A special part of my family’s life is the Church community. The Church is where we can relate to other believers and feel like a big family. In order to create an atmosphere full of peace, we must “... love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:31). If the community expresses love for others through words and actions, a peaceful community is created. The reality is that sometimes there may be people who do not agree with you. My parents taught me patience and love for others which led me to become an example for others to “love your neighbors”. Therefore, if we follow the wise words of our God as stated in the book of Mark, we can become more like Jesus.

As I walk in the footsteps of Jesus, there are times when I slip and fall into a ditch. The people who help me stand up and get back on the right path is my family. My daily life with my family has influenced me to build true faith in God and to love Him abundantly every moment, good or bad. I pray that God’s presence in my family’s daily life will reach my community and build their faith in our Father in Heaven.