

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST BIBLE OUTREACH

+234 80 2327 0222

2 Kalex Close, Off Adeshina
Road Ijeshatedo-Surulere,
Lagos.

gcbo.com.ng



SUNDAY SERVICE WHY IS FAITH NEEDED?

Pastor A.S.O Olaleye

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In everyday life, faith is needed in two ways:

1. when knowledge is not enough.
2. When we cannot trust in it completely.

Each person assesses the reliability and sufficiency of the information they receive. The same applies to how we relate to the accounts in the Bible. Some of us consider the content of the Bible completely reliable, others do not.

However, a person is not saved by knowledge but by faith alone.

In one sense, faith and knowledge are opposites, yet faith “stands on the shoulders of knowledge.” Therefore, knowledge cannot be separated from saving faith, because the Bible and the knowledge it contains are necessary for believers. It is important to understand that saving faith according to the Bible is not generated by the power of knowledge and evidence.

Why Do I Need Faith?

According to the Bible, every person is sinful and in need of God’s forgiveness. Faith is the only way to connect with God and receive the forgiveness of sins:

According to the story of Creation, God, who is perfectly good, created humans in His own image—perfect.

Genesis 1:27

[27]So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Humans lived without sin, pure and holy in God’s presence, freely willing and doing what God desired.

Only in this state of righteousness could humans be truly connected with God.

However, when they fall into sin, humans turned away from God. They chose and did what was contrary to God’s will—sin.

As a result, the entire human race became corrupted and inherited the original sin, which has been part of every human being’s nature from conception. Because of the original sin, humans are sinful by nature and therefore cannot be truly

connected with God.

From a human perspective, the situation is completely hopeless. God demands perfection, but as sinners, we cannot fully obey His law. God's justness calls for punishment for humans, but His love desires to forgive them. God resolved this contradiction in a way summarized beautifully by the evangelist John:

John 3:16

[16]For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Jesus suffered the punishment we deserved because of our sins and made it possible for us to stand again before God as holy and pure. A person who hears this good news—the Gospel of Jesus—and personally believes it receives the forgiveness of sins and is united with God.

When Jesus appeared to Paul, He said: "...they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me." (Acts 26:18)