

LA AVENTURA: CAMINO DEL ROCÍO 2ºESO

Stage 3. How to discover God

Research 1: Faith, a gift of God

Having faith is **ACCEPTING** God's plans although we don't understand them, although we don't like them. If we had the ability to see the end from the beginning as He does, then we would be able to know why He sometimes drives our lives along strange paths which are against our reasoning and our hopes.

Having faith is **GIVING** when we don't have, when we ourselves need. Faith always gets something valuable out of what is apparently non-existent; it can make the treasure of generosity shine between poverty and abandonment, filling the one who gives and the one who receives with gratitude.

Having faith is **BELIEVING** when it's easier to turn to doubt. If the flame of trust in something better goes out, our only choice is giving up to despondency. The belief in our goodness, possibilities and talents, as well as in our fellowmen's, is the energy that moves life towards great paths.

Having faith is **LEADING** our life, not with our sight, but with our heart. Reason needs evidence to take risks, our heart needs only a ray of hope. The greatest things life gives us cannot be seen or touched, they can only be caressed by the spirit.

Having faith is **STANDING UP** when we fall down. Setbacks and failures in life sadden us, but it is sadder to stay regretting on the cold floor of self-pity, trapped by frustration and grief.

Having faith is **RISKING** everything in return for a dream, a love, an aspiration. Nothing which is worthy in this life can be achieved without a dose of sacrifice which implies to get rid of something or someone, in order to get what improves our own world and the others'.

Having faith is **SEEING** ahead positively, no matter how uncertain the future may seem or how painful the past. Someone with faith makes the basis for tomorrow out of today and tries to live it in such a way that when it becomes a part of their past, they can see it as a pleasant memory.

Having faith is **TRUSTING**, but trusting not only in things, but in what is more important... in people. A lot of people trust in material things, but they live empty relationships with their



peers. It is true that there will always be someone who may hurt you and betray your trust, so keep trusting and just be more careful with those you trust twice.

Having faith is **SEARCHING** for the impossible: smiling when your days are cloudy and your eyes have dried after so much crying. Having faith is never stopping smiling, even when you are sad, because you never know when your smile may give light and hope to someone's life which is in a worse situation than yours.

Having faith is **DRIVING YOURSELF** along the paths of life in the same way as a child holds their father's hand. It is to leave our problems in God's hands and throw ourselves into His arms rather than through the depths of despair. Faith is resting in Him so that he may carry us, instead of us carrying our problems ourselves.





Fill in this chart with experiences in your life:

IN MY LIFE	MOMENT IN MY LIFE
I have accepted	
I have given	
I have believed	
I have been led by	
I have stood up for	
I have taken a risk for	
I have seen	
I have trusted	
I have searched	
I have left myself in the hands of	