

HAVING FAITH IN ANOTHER

Father James Chelich - 2021

Perhaps the most important thing in life is to find someone who has faith in you. But what does it mean, “to have faith in someone?” I think that it is important to identify four elements.

1. **Someone who has faith in you *listens to you*.** They listen beneath the surface of what you say and look behind your actions. They want to know what *you* think and how *you* feel, what *you* value and what motivates *you*. If you think about it, this is the only way someone can come to know who you really are -- from the inside out. How can anyone say that they have faith in you without knowing *you*. People can form an impression of you from what they hear you say and see you do. They can listen to what other people say about you. It is true that someone can get an *idea of who you are* by observing your choices and your actions, but they would not know your motivations, what moves you from within – your soul. Someone who has faith in *you*, no matter how long they have known you, never assumes that they know the whole of who *you* are. For them, you are never the sum of your words and your actions. They never put you in a box, label you, and say that is all there is to you. This is because *you* are a living soul, capable of more than even you think you can be or do. Someone who has faith in you believes this.
2. **Someone who has faith in you sees the potential for the good in you and want to see you bring it out.** They make themselves available to be personally present to you. They encourage you and support you in any way they can.
3. **Someone who has faith in you wants to see you break loose of the darkness within you or around you.** They will stand by you, as you strive to break free of it. They will never encourage you to stay in the grip of your anger, your jealousy, your addictions, the abuse you are suffering, the danger you are experiencing or any other form of darkness that destroys the human spirit. They will never do anything with you that allows you to get further lost in the darkness.
4. **Someone who has faith in you wants you to succeed in every good initiative you make.** They are the first to celebrate your success. They find genuine joy in your growing strong and confident in all things good.

This is how Jesus had faith in his disciples. It is how God has faith in us. We learn to have faith in others by paying attention to how Jesus has faith in us and keeps faith with us. Faith is the essential core of personal relationship of any kind. When it comes to being human, faith is everything!