**The Leafless Twig – Study Guide**

Probably everyone can relate to the struggle to grow faith. God understands there are obstacles in our way. In this short study, we’ll examine whether or not we need to grow our faith, what may be necessary in that process, how patience plays a part, an Old Testament example and how we can know that God truly understands our struggles.

The bible is the first and only authority we look to for answers to spiritual questions. It is the unchanging standard in an ever changing world. So we won’t look to scholars, commentators, or any other source. We trust fully in God and His word.

1. Is growing optional for a Christian?

[2 Peter 3:17-18](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+peter+3%3A17-18&version=ESV) Do you think the “beloved” Peter refers to are Christians? What does Peter warn about? What does he suggest as an alternative?

[James 1:22-24](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=james+1%3A22-24&version=ESV) What happens to our faith if we don’t practice it?

1. Can we grow our faith if we’re consumed with worry about this world?

[Matthew 6:25-34](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew+6%3A25-34&version=ESV) How did Jesus calm our worries in the Sermon on the Mount?

1. Is it normal to have struggles when growing our faith?

[Psalm 73:17, 22-28](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+73%3A17%2C+22-28&version=ESV) Asaph struggled watching the faithless prosper in this life. How did he renew his faith in God?

1. Can God in heaven really know anything about your struggles?

[Hebrews 4:14-16](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=hewbrews+4%3A14-16&version=ESV) How can Jesus sympathize with our weaknesses?

1. Sometimes we want an answer to our troubles immediately, but God wants us to wait. Do you struggle with patiently waiting for God?

[Psalm 40:1-3](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=psalm+40%3A1-3&version=ESV) What happens when we wait patiently on the Lord?

Growing your faith is a lifelong process. Don’t give up! We’re here to help. If you want to know more, [contact us](http://www.westendchurch.com/contact) and let us help. Better yet, [visit us](http://www.westendchurch.com/about/visit-us). You will find a group of Christians intent on doing exactly what the bible says. No less and no more. You will find truth uncompromised.