

FAITH

Hebrews 11:1 tells us that faith is “being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.” Perhaps no other component of the Christian life is more important than faith. We cannot purchase it, sell it or give it to our friends. So what is faith and what role does faith play in the Christian life? The dictionary defines faith as “belief in, devotion to, or trust in somebody or something, especially without logical proof.” It also defines faith as “belief in and devotion to God.” The Bible has much more to say about faith and how important it is. In fact, it is so important that, without faith, we have no place with God, and it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). According to the Bible, faith is belief in the one, true God without actually seeing Him.

Faith is not something we conjure up on our own, nor is it something we are born with, nor is faith a result of diligence in study or pursuit of the spiritual. Ephesians 2:8-9 makes it clear that **faith is a gift from God**, not because we deserve it, have earned it, or are worthy to have it. It is not from ourselves; it is from God. It is not obtained by our power or our free will. Faith is simply given to us by God, along with His grace and mercy, according to His holy plan and purpose, and because of that, He gets all the glory.

God designed a way to distinguish between those who belong to Him and those who don't, and it is called faith. Very simply, **we need faith to please God**. God tells us that it pleases Him that we believe in Him even though we cannot see Him. A key part of Hebrews 11:6 tells us that “he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” This is not to say that we have faith in God just to get something from Him. However, God loves to bless those who are obedient and faithful. We see a perfect example of this in Luke 7:50. Jesus is engaged in dialog with a sinful woman when He gives us a glimpse of why faith is so rewarding. “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.” The woman believed in Jesus Christ by faith, and He rewarded her for it. Finally, faith is what sustains us to the end, knowing that by faith we will be in heaven with God for all eternity. “Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls” (1 Peter 1:8-9).

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OKATEE BAPTIST CHURCH



Okatee Baptist Church exists as a family of baptized believers in Jesus Christ who are dedicated to prayer, evangelism, worship, ministry, missions and fellowship through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Woody Oliver / Pastor
Jeff Herrin / Worship Leader
July 18, 2021

The Lord's Day

July 18, 2021

Invocation

Call to Worship

"Crown Him With Many Crowns" Verses 1, 2, 4 Hymn #304

Prayer

Pastor Woody

Welcome

Welcome to Okatee Baptist Church.
Thank you for worshiping with us today.
We are glad you are here.

"To God Be the Glory"

"My Jesus I Love Thee" Verses 1, 2, 4 Hymn #28

Missions Moment

Bill Copeland

Message

"Grasshopper Faith"
Numbers 13 & 14 Pastor Woody

"Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated" Verses 1, 2, 4 Hymn #534

Announcements

Benediction

WELCOME

Welcome to Okatee Baptist Church. Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a visitor, please fill out the communication card in the holder on the back of the pew, and place it in the offering plate in the foyer as you leave.

Offering plates have been provided on the table in the foyer of the sanctuary for your convenience. Thank you for supporting our church with your Tithes and Offerings.

OKATEE BAPTIST CHURCH, 5467 N. OKATIE HWY., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
843-987-0885
www.okateebaptist.com

OUR PEOPLE GAVE

Weekly Budget Needed \$ 4,899.79
Budget Offering Received \$ 5,260.00

ATTENDANCE

Worship Service - 71 Sunday School - 43 Sunday Evening - 28
Wednesday Bible Study - 32

FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 6:00pm Sunday Evening Service
The Timid Hero / Judges 6:1-24

Tuesday 2:00pm Women's Prayer Group at
Barbara Barrett's home
Call 843-705-2762 for gate pass

Wednesday 6:00pm Covered Dish Meal (fried chicken provided)
No Choir Rehearsal

Sunday 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
6:00pm No Evening Service

I often say what a joy it is to be together, and now that I am joining you as your pastor, I say it is a great joy to be together as we seek to 'grow in Christ and reach the lost'. Life is a journey and my family and I are delighted to journey with the people of Okatee Baptist Church loving one another and serving the Lord. We were encouraged by the unanimous vote last Sunday, and we are encouraged by the willingness of the members to be partners as we impact places where we live, work, and play.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this dynamic church and thank you for allowing me to lead. Now that I am on board as your pastor, the first order of business is to replenish the vacancies we have in the areas of deacons. We are in the process of vetting a few Godly men to serve as deacons to help me care for the congregation. Please be in prayer as we move forward in this making us a healthy church.

Pastor Woody