

Feast of the Assumption
PRAY

1. There is a story about 2 fisherman
 - a. One kept the big fish and threw back the little ones
 - b. One kept the little fish and threw back the big ones
 - c. WHY – I only have a small frying pan

2. Sometimes – like the fisherman – we throw back big plans, dreams, ideas, oppty that God sends us because our faith is too small
 - a. One of the reasons that the church celebrates Assumption so solemnly is the church wants our faith to be as big and strong as Mary's
 - b. **Are you ready to increase your faith?**
 - c. God has big hopes for us – Assumption sized hopes

3. So lets talk about the Assumption
 - a. For me – Assumption is connected to the Immaculate Conception
 - i. Immac. Concept. – Mary, conceived with no Original Sin
 - ii. No predisposition to sin – therefore – Mary led sinless life
 1. Hard to believe – BUT
 2. Hard to believe for us because we HAVE original sin
 3. Mary had no sin
 - iii. ROMANS – wages of sin is death
 1. Did Jesus sin? No sin – could he die? NO
 - a. Except – He took our sin as His own
 - b. So He dies – but sinless – death has no hold
 2. Did Mary sin? No sin – so her soul rises up & her body
 3. Do we sin? Yup – and because we do:
 - a. Lives full of doubt, difficulty, suffering, & pain
 - b. Efforts to follow Christ – obstacle after obstacle

Because
This is a fallen world

LISTEN – it's all about Faith

4. **Faith in Christ** doesn't take away the crosses of life
 - a. It didn't take away the cross from **Mary's life**
 - b. It didn't take away the cross from the **life of the saints**
 - c. But **faith** shows us that Mary was snatched up to heaven
AND HERE'S HOW ASSUMPTION CAN GROW OUR FAITH
 - i. **When we look to Mary we can see our God is faithful**
 - ii. She was taken up - & **WE will be taken up**
 - iii. We can see that promise of bodily resurrection fulfilled in Mary
 - iv. If we stay true to God – He will stay true to us
 - d. Mary's Assumption gives us hope despite life's troubles
 - e. No matter what the world throws at us – we can rejoice.