HOW TO FIND FAITH

Hebrews 11:6 - Romans 10:17
John 20:30-31

Introduction:

1. All admire the peace of those who have it (Mike Nikolaidi)
2. Unbelief can be emotional too!
3. But - How does faith come?

Discussion: (Some never find it because they seek the wrong thing in the wrong way.

I. HOW FAITH DOES NOT COME
   A. By waiting, wishing, even praying!
   B. By direct intervention from Heaven
   C. By ignoring troublesome intellectual doubts
   D. By being "psyched up" (metabolism)
   E. By miraculous confirmation
      1. Tornado, words, trick?
      2. Embodiment, monster (He was "embodied" and rejected
      3. Note: "Tongues, etc."

II. WHAT IS IT? ABRAHAM'S TOES!

III. HOW FAITH DOES COME
    - A gift - like growth, from God, through cultivation
    A. Admit you want to believe (or face why you don't
    - John 7:17 (totality of person, not just mind)
    1. Faith is in the "will", not the feelings.
       b. See = Justin

..more
c. Unamund - "To believe in God is in the first instance to wish that there may be a God, to be unable to live without Him."

2. First - "I was at the point where I said, "I want to believe."

B. Go where faith is - Roses, Education

1. The divide enters here. - Eph. 4:16, Col.2:19
2. Small companies - (I "parasite" the faith of believing people - vs. talk only with "non-faith" people)

C. Focus the object of faith - Hebrews 11:6, John 8:44

1. W. Broom - "This I believe"
2. Different from "Positive Thinking"
3. Jesus - "Dare you"

D. Fill your mind with faith - Building material

1. We build what we want (decision) - Col. 3:1, Rom. 10:17
2. Books, Tapes, Conversation
3. The Word (John 8:31-32) - Auto-suggestion? Mechanical? (No! Choice! - can "choose not to believe" too!)

E. Do your experiment of faith - (Scientific Methodology)

1. "Do what a believer would do"
2. Unbelief is dissolved by obedience - John 14: 21-23.
   a. Escape "Introspection"
   b. Prove validity in life.
   c. Like a Bicycle.

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Conclusion:

1. Not absence of doubt!
2. Won't always feel like you believe.
3. But God is God whether I feel like it or not. (Hang-ups)
4. Faith - "A spot" or "A way"
5. Jesus is the clue - follow him and be "met".
Central, Houston - 1972
Oak Hill, San Antonio - 1977
Sunset Ridge, San Antonio - 1979
Central, Miami - 1980
Southern Hills, Abilene - March 1981
Pepinado Convocation - March 1981
Coppus Christi, TX - May 1981
Beaverton, TX (Westgate) - Dec. 81
St. Catharines, ONT. - June 82
Harvey, TX - Aug 1972
College, Wichita, TX - Dec. 82
Junction, TX - Nov. 1982
Red Town, Forth Worth, TX - 1984 (completed)
NAEOLY Lectures - 1983 (completed)
St. Catherine's, ONT. - June 1988
Taco Key & New - 88