

Torrey 1997 Faith for Living Part 1

By Keith Johnson

Speaker 1:

And I'm going to go to this very prayer and then Keith Johnson is going to come up so bow with me in prayer, if you will.

Father, we do give you thanks for this time to study your word, Father. We do. Thank you for bringing your servant safely, Keith. And Lord, I pray that you continue to open up our hearts or that your word McFarlan good grandfather and good soil. Lord, I pray that you continue to humble us before you Lord and break us, Lord, that we would be more receptive to being transformed in the image of Christ. Lord, and I pray that you continue that good work in us and to really challenge us today. Father, we commit this time to you in Jesus name. Amen. One quick announcement.

Keith Johnson will be speaking at one o'clock in the gym G7 if you're interested to the athletes. So that's one o'clock. Thanks. Great, thanks.

Johnson:

OK, I need you all to do something for me before we get started. I'm kind of one of those folks who just kind of warm and fuzzy. I mean, I just that's just the way I am. I think that folks, you know, kind of can be in a Christian institution. And, you know, I bet you could probably go through the school for two or three weeks and never really even grab hands or touch anyone or

whatever appropriately, of course. But what I'd like you to do is I'd like you to stand up and greet three people that you do not know. My name. Oh. How many of you met someone that you'd never met before? Wow. And that's something you know, it's really great. The relationships that you build in college can be relationships that last until you see him in heaven. And so you all should take seriously the opportunity to to greet each other and get to know each other. There's gifts in this room that are available for you that you don't even know that are here.

So I'm going to be spending my three elective times talking about a very general topic. Maybe folks would see it as a very general topic. And but I don't see it as a very general topic at all. In fact, I think it's essential for us if we are to live in this world and it also be an expectation for the place after this. I mean, you know, I'm talking about heaven and then we're going to be talking about the word faith FAITH. But as we're talking about that, you need to understand a little bit about what faith is. And so as folks are coming in here, what I want everyone to do, if you would if you would just please stand to your feet for a second. And now this. I'm going to be talking about faith. We're living in the next three electives. But in its most basic sense, I want you to understand what faith is. OK, everybody sit down. All right.

Now, everybody in this room just experienced faith. All right? How many know what I'm talking about? Why did you experience faith? Someone tell me you sat down in the chair and what did you believe about the chair that it was going to hold you? I mean, you just thought to yourself you didn't even think about it. You just say, hey, he said, sit down. I'm a sit down. No one's going to pull the chair out from behind me.

The chair is not going to break. The chair is going to hold me regardless if I'm fifty pounds or whatever. The bottom line is that I have faith in the chair. And so everybody stood up.

Everybody sat down. You just experienced faith right here in this room. Now you might say, well, Keith, that's you know, we assume that we just take that for granted. We know that the maintenance people didn't come in here and loosen the screws.

We know that basically they're going to be able to sit down in this chair. But, you know, as it pertains to God, you can have more faith in God than you have in that chair, more faith in God than you had in that chair. But I'll bet you that there are folks in this room that do not experience God like you experience that chair. You do not experience God as one that's going to be there, regardless of your circumstances are your situation, you don't experience God and you can look over your back and know that, yes, in fact, God is there, but God is a god of faith. And I believe that if we can grab a hold of faith in this world as we're walking in this world, we can have what I call victory in life, an opportunity to live life according to the abundance that Jesus has promised us. Now, I want you to turn with me to the book of Hebrews, if you would.

Those of you that don't know, I spend three quarters of my time in evangelism, in an evangelistic training. And one of the groups that I'm particularly dealing with right now happens to be professional athletes. I'm a chaplain for the Minnesota Vikings and then I have some other athletes in the NFL that are different cities that I work with in both training them for their own opportunity to share the gospel. And so we have people and of course, now Los Angeles doesn't have a team anymore, is that right? No. NFL and Los Angeles, we all know anything about like

we all know anything about the other cities. I mean, do you all know about football out here?
OK, you guys, everybody everybody that comes to Los Angeles always leaves the Rams.

The Raiders, they both left. Right, not the Lakers. Hey, man, what am I talking about that we're talking about faith. OK, anyway, at the beginning of this football season, I the Minnesota Vikings were playing the Seattle Seahawks in the Hall of Fame game. And so we went out to Canton, Ohio. And as I was with the team, we got a chance to go into the Hall of Fame and to look at all those folks that are in there. And of course, I looked at those folks and I immediately thought about the Hall of Fame, Hebrews Chapter 11. So if you would turn with me there to Hebrews Chapter 11, I would appreciate that.

Now, are you all actually here because you're supposed to be here? I mean, how does this work? Somebody tell me the truth. I mean, do they have to come to one of these sessions? Oh, I figured that. I mean I mean, it's not like you're like, oh, I'm so excited to go and hear more about Jesus. No, but you you guys you guys are here. I mean, look at folks walking in. I'm thinking, man, wow, this is must be really popular. But I'd say you got to swipe that little card through there, huh. What's that little card? And somebody help me with that card as that card work card. It's your ID card. So if you don't swipe that card and I couldn't someone swipe the card and then run out the door, they do it all the time. How many are done that before? Hey, man. Hey, man.

I just find this to be very interesting that students are at a school where you don't have I mean, how can I say it? You kind of have to do this. But you could if you wanted to, you could skip out. Is that right? OK, so give yourself some credit. You half want to be here. Give yourself a

hand. All right. I spent some time in the Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, and I walked around and, you know, you see these pictures of folks and it's like, man, wow, there's so-and-so who did such and such. And, wow, look at look at that guy. And that guy ran for ten gazillion yards, you know, and that guy threw for a million yards. And these are folks that they put into the Hall of Fame.

When you go around and you look at them, it's like, man, I'm right here in the Hall of Fame. But, you know, there is something called the Hall of Fame and Hebrews Chapter 11 gives us a glimpse of the Hall of Fame. Now, I'm going to give you a few definitions. First of all, I let you those of you that were here a little bit late, I had everybody stand up. And so if you got here late and you didn't hear me ask everyone to stand up, could you stand up? I'm not going to embarrass you. Just stand up. If you got here late, it's OK. It's all right. Hey, man. Hey, man, if you got here late now sit down, OK? Now you just experienced faith because you knew that the chair was going to hold you. And so you sat down on the chair. And we say that though we know that the chair is going to hold us, we have a God who is greater than a chair, but sometimes we don't treat God with the same faith that we have in the chair.

But I want to give you another definition of faith. It's FAITH. F means forsaking, A means all, I means I... Look at that, t means forsaking all T means forsaking all I take T, H means him-forsaking all I take him. So when you think of faith, think of it in those terms forsaking all I take God Hebrews Chapter 11. We're going to look at just for a little bit the Hall of Fame.

Now of course, you're going to have other opportunities in the next couple of days to go go to other electives. I will let you know now that I'm going to be staying on faith for all three times. It

won't be the same message, but I'm going to give different dimensions of faith, just so you know that. This first dimension, Hebrews, Chapter 11, verse one, says these words, now, faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Now, the first two words, and Hebrews Chapter 11 is revival. Talk for me now. Faith, not yesterday. Faith, not tomorrow. Faith. Now, Faith. How many of you need help? Now raise your hand. You see, God is a right now God. God is a God who was God is the God, who is God is the God who will be. But guess what? Right now God's concern is for you right here at Biola University on the twenty second of October at eleven, thirty seven and six seconds. Right now God is thinking about you right this very second. And you got to think to yourself, man, how can God do that? Now, let me tell you something real quick. I don't know if you guys talk about this here. You all talk about God, Ebola. Do you ever talk about the devil? OK, I want you to know there is a devil. But let me tell you something about the devil. The devil is not a right now devil like God is the right now God man.

The devil is not omnipresent. God is omnipresent. Now, we know that God resides in Minnesota, but we also know that God visits hello, Los Angeles and Kenya and Portugal those. But we know where he resides. OK, that devil on the other hand, cannot be in Los Angeles and Minneapolis at the same time. Did you know that? I said the devil, Lucifer, the king of the Devils. But God is a right now God right now, wherever you are, God in your situation, God now I believe that the devil resides somewhere on the West Coast. I'm not going to say where. I mean, there's some crazy stuff going on on the West Coast. Oh, yeah. With me. Hey, man, man, I know he's out here somewhere. I don't think he's down here.

But the point is the point is now he's got demons, but the devil himself cannot be involved with everybody at the same time. But God can be involved with everybody at the same time, which means back in the corner where we've got struggle are in the front row where we're struggling with whatever it is that we're doing, that God is so big and so wonderful and so all powerful. Never has a busy signal when you call, I promise you.

And all of our modernization heaven does not have voicemail. I'm so glad about it. I hate voicemail. I think it's a curse every time I call dinged. And you have reached whatever happened to people picking up the phone. God picks up the phone every time I call. He is always available. So it says now Fee right now is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. I want you to think for a minute what is something that you're hoping for and what is something that you do not see. Now, you all this is not a regular preaching session is going to be a little different little interaction.

I need you just to find two people, turn toward them and tell them one thing you're hoping for and one thing you do not see. Go ahead. Tell each other that real quick. All right. The Bible says that now faith is being sure. How many of you are sure that when I finish this thing, you're going to walk outside somehow you're going to get outside, you're sure that you're not sure the rapture's could come? OK, I'll go with that. How many of you are sure that you'll breathe right now? OK. Certain of what we do not see now. I don't know how many of you have been in college as long as the house. The house has been in college about seven years. How many of you are certain that

you're going to graduate? How many you'd like to be certain you're going to correct your opinion.

Now, faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. And then it says this is what the ancient ancients were commended for, the Hall of Fame. Now in the Hall of Fame that I was in, as I mentioned, they go around, they talk about the dedicated players in impact player, consistent player. But in the Hall of Fame, it's the same sort of situation. The question is, how will we as Christians make sure that we will be in the Hall of Fame?

I don't know about you, but I'd love to be in the Hall of Fame. I'd love them to walk in there and look over and see me say, Oh, this is Reverend Keith Johnson. He was commended for his faith. And how did he show a spirit of being sure what was hoped for and certain of what was not seen. But there's something else with faith. It's very important. There's a friend of mine. I don't know if you know him or not. He plays for the he plays for the Green Bay Packers. His name is Reggie White. And Reggie White said to me, he said, Keith, I've learned that faith is not just faith alone. Faith also connects to obedience. And, you know, I believe that because you see, when we have faith in God, we're obedient to what God calls us to. It becomes a very natural sort of connection.

Now, look at what happens in Chapter 11, verses four and on it says, By faith, Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did by faith. He was commended as a righteous man when God spoke well of his offspring and by faith, he still speaks even though he is dead. Verse five I Love This Guy is one of my most favorite folks in the Bible. By Faith. Enoch was taken from this life so that he did not experience death. He could not be found because God had taken him away. Now

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you all listen to this. This is so interesting, Enoch and God, are there any boyfriends and girlfriends in the house that would be willing to confess it? Hello.

OK, you guys are boyfriend and girlfriend. Could you stand up just for a second? All right. So I was the same, but that's my boyfriend. Your boyfriend? That's OK. Now, how long have you been boyfriend girlfriend? Hi. Since this morning?

Speaker 2: Almost a year.

Johnson: Oh, almost a year. You like him? He likes her. OK, now let me I got to deal with you. Could you guys come here for a second? All right, now, friends, we are gathered here in the sight of God to witness and to join the oh, you don't want to do that yet, huh?

Speaker 3: Not, not yet.

Johnson: OK, all right. Now, what is your name?

Speaker 3: Nate,

Speaker 2: Chester

Johnson: Nate and Chester. I bet you are from California. Only in California would you have a name like Chester. Yes, I like that. I like that. OK, so you guys like each other pretty good. You talk to each other every day. Did you talk to each other this morning?

Speaker 2 and 3: Yes

Johnson: After you woke up? Right. All right. You talk to each other tomorrow unless you break up. But basically, you guys really you like each other a lot. You communicate. If Nate said he was going to go to another school, would you want to go with me?

Oh, that's deep. Nate, if Chester wanted to go to another school, would you go, Chester?

Speaker 3: Sure.

Johnson: Sure. I mean, the one Polly clean here. But basically you guys are like, beep. I mean, a year is a long time at Biola to be boyfriend and girlfriend. And that's true. And it's true that the average Biola dating goes three point six months. That's what the statistics say is three point six months. All right, for a year you guys have been together. Would you say it's serious enough that if you were of age, if you were of age and you were in the position, now I'm just asking I'm just, listen, now if if you were of age and you had the right finances and whatever, you might want to marry her.

Speaker 3: Yes.

Johnson: Now, if you are of age in the right position, you might want to marry him,

Speaker 2: Mmm hmm.

Johnson: OK? You're engaged. Sit down. You guys can sit down, but here's the point now, the reason I brought them up here is that this situation I'm in.

All right, this this situation with Enoch and God was like Nate and Chester times a million.

Enoch and God, they loved each other. I mean, in the morning Enoch would say, I get to talk to God. And in the morning, God would say, oh, I get to talk with Enoch. Now, you all, this excites me because the God of the universe was in love with Enoch the man, the man into the person, the human being, one whom God created. It says that Enoch and God would be like, Hey, what's up enoch? What's up God? They walk down hall. . What's going on with you God? What's going on with you Enoch? What you got, what's going on with you Enoch? Enoch said, "well I've been doing this, God. What you been doing God? Well I just made a new universe over here. You know, they, they, they talked and they walked together. And I mean, it says that Enoch was so cool with God. The God said, look, forget this appointment stuff. You come on up to heaven right now. I'm like, Enoch, you're so cool with me. I don't even want you to experience death.

Are you listening to me? There was faith that Enoch had that was commended for it because he had had such communion with God. I promise you that Enoch treated God with more faith than you treat the chair. Enoch knew God and God knew Enoch. It says that by faith he was taken from this life, by obedience to who God was and to who he was in the relationship with God. Enoch was taken from this life. How many you believe that man?

It says this verse six and without faith forsaking all I take him without chair faith, without sit down feet. It is impossible to please God. Now, some folks would say, Man, you're crazy. That's crazy that you believe God for this and you hope for God for that, but you have to understand something if you have any concern about pleasing God, but you don't live by faith, you are not pleasing God. Without faith, it is literally impossible for you to please God. Now, there's probably a Bible scholar in here somewhere or a theologian somewhere that would say, why is that? That would answer the question, why is that the case? Now, let me I'm going see someone that I think a Bible scholar, a theologian.

You look like a theologian. You look. What is your name? Doug. Stand up and tell the people why without faith, it's impossible to please God, why is faith so important with God? You see, I took the glasses out. That was a theologian kind of move. OK, all right. He should write a book. Give him a my hand.

Now, listen, let me tell you something else. Why is it impossible, please, God, without faith? Because if you don't have faith, you don't have a relationship with God. How many of you all

have seen God lately? I mean, I mean, physically, how many you have seen God? How many you believe in God that takes somebody say faith, that takes me.

Look, the bottom line is, you guys, you're believing in a God that you don't see. God says without faith, it's impossible to please me. It takes faith, trust in him without seeing him to be able to please God. Now look at what it says. Without faith, it's impossible to please God because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. God is not a hide and seek God, but God is a God that says seek me. And when you seek me, guess what?

You win the game, you'll find me verse seven by Faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen in Holy Fear, built an ark to save his family. And by faith, he condemned the world and became aware of the righteousness that comes by faith. Noah heard from God what the situation was not unlike us.

Did you know that this world will pass? Did you know that in the Bible that if you read the Bible time and time again, you'll get indications from the word of God that would say that it looks like we're in the last days? Did you know that certainly out here in California, you all would feel like it looks like the last days there will be wars and rumors of wars. There will be earthquakes. Have you ever been an earthquake? Man, I pray. God, don't let me in. Earthquake out here. How many of you have been in earthquakes? Man, does that. I mean, just imagine you just sitting there. I mean, you can't grab on to anything. I mean, the whole earth is shaking. But do you know that

even though the earth is shaking, God does not get shaken, but it says in the last days you will experience these things.

In the last days, men will become lovers of men. Women will become lovers of women. You all know that in the last days this will happen. Selfishness will be there, greed will be there. Men will become lovers of themselves. I mean, clearly, if you turn on the news, if you watch a read a paper, open up a magazine, it's clear to me how long he comes back. I don't know how long, but I know he's coming back.

And based on what I read, I feel like we're in the last days so as Noah heard from God. Noah, I am about to bring an end to this thing, I have found you as righteous and one who is blameless in my sight do A, B and C. It says that Noah took his faith and his obedience and his trust and built an ark, I believe, where Noah's. God says that in the last days this will happen, therefore go out into all the world and let them know, let them know that I'm coming back, let them know that I desire a relationship with them. Are you doing what God has called you to do in these last days?

For if you have faith, you have obedience and you have trust. Verse eight by Faith Abraham, when called to go to a place you would later receive as an inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going by faith, he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country. He lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise, for he was looking forward to the city with foundations whose architect and builder is God.

Abraham understood that this world was not the last stop. How many of you know that you're aliens and strangers in this world just here for a little while, your life is but a mist that will appear for just a little while. I'm hoping that the kind of faith that you're going to take hold of let you know that there is something on the other side. Even though this city are the difficulties that you're in are difficult. This is not the last stop. Hopefully your trust and your faith is in God who has prepared for us something else not. I just got to tell you, this is the side like don't let the administration know that I told you this, but I'm going to tell you a secret. This is don't tell anybody, OK? Hey, man, did you know that in heaven it's going to be just like the dorms?

How many now wait. Somebody else? Hold on, no, no, no, no. I got in this deal because he said I had a mansion. What a call to say, Jesus said, in my father's house, there are many dorm rooms. This is going to shake y'all when we get to heaven. You probably going to live next to somebody who doesn't look like you. Why has it gone quiet?

Somebody in heaven you might be might be living next to someone who doesn't look like you. What are you going to do about that? You're going to praise God because you got there, hopefully some of you are like, well, shoot, I don't know how long we live next. Listen, you guys, let me tell you that, man, this is another thing. Bear with me on this. Don't tell the administration that I veered from my topic. But heaven. Is a wonderful place. It says that in the last days after we come to heaven, it says that people of all tribes and tongues and nations are going to gather around the throne and sing gospel.

I'm not sure. Now, let me tell you what I think it's gospel. Well, I'm pretty sure they're not going to sing chamber music because everybody can't read those notes. But I'm sure that on that day they're going to be able to get the clap. You know, I mean, I'm pretty sure that they don't just start singing and somebody is going to hit the drums and I mean, it's going to be a wonderful, wonderful situation. This should shake you guys up just a little bit. It should make you feel uncomfortable because there won't be any Baptists or Methodists or Lutherans or Assemblies of God, people in heaven.

Did you know that only Christians, only Christians will be there? And I mean, you guys, it's going to be such an exciting thing. We're going to be in community come unity with one another. Guess how you get there by having f a i t h in God. Of course, you understand the only way you can have faith in God is by first having faith in his son, Jesus Christ, which is another message. But I'll give it to you. Nobody can get to God unless they come through Jesus. He says he is the way the truth and the life. Nobody gets to his daddy but through him.

Now the problem is this. There's a whole bunch of folks and I rode on the plane with some of them who have decided that they're going to get to God a different way. Now, I don't want to step on any toes, but do you understand? Mohammed is dead. Buddha is dead. Dead. But I was over in Israel and I checked the grave where they say they like Jesus and he wasn't there. Well, now you can go listen. You can go to where Buddha is laid. You can go to where you can go where they lead. I guess what? They're dead.

Jesus got up and because he got up, he's in relationship with God now. And he says, look, I'm the only one that got death. So the only way you can get to God is through me. So you got to have a relationship with Jesus Christ, which is a relationship of faith, forsaking all I take him. That's another message by Faith Abraham. When called to go to a place, he went on, he did this architect and builder who is God verse eleven by Faith Abraham, even though he was past age, that means he was an old man and Sarah herself was barren. That means she could not have children, wasn't able to become a father because he considered himself faithful. Who had made the promise. Now you all this is a nuts and bolts, birds and bees situation. Yes, God said to Abraham, Abraham, you will bring forth a seed.

I will bring forth the seed through you. Abraham thought to himself, Well, I'm getting old. And God probably didn't mean really from me physically. So he went ahead and took Ishmail and said, That's going to be my seed. It's an example of when you don't do what God wants you to do because causes confusion. God wanted him to wait on his blessing and his blessing was, I'm going to bring a seed through you now. Abraham was older than Ron and me combined times to an old man. Sarah would not have children, but because God spoke this thing, it came to pass. Why is that is so important? Do you understand that when God speaks of thing, it comes to the past? God said in the beginning of the world, in the beginning, God created the heavens, the Earth. God said, let there be light. And when God said light, it says light came.

God speaks a thing and it comes to pass, God is not a man that he should line or some man that should change his mind. Does God speak and not act? Does God promise and not fulfill you all? You need to know something. You cannot trust the preacher. You cannot trust the president. You

cannot trust your girlfriend or your boyfriend. You cannot trust your mother or father sometimes. But God, you can trust absolutely, positively, without a shadow of a doubt, you can trust God.

Some of you may be saying, well, you don't understand my situation. You don't see how my my family is broken apart. You don't see that I'm in a bad relationship with my father or my mother. You don't understand that I'm wracked with disease or pain. You you don't understand. I do understand. All those things do not change the fact that God is God. We're only passing through. This is not the last stop. You won't always have relationship problems. You won't always have physical problems, but you have a solution. And nineteen ninety seven in your life, which is faith forsaking all I take you God completely faith in you.

Abraham is an old man, Sara is an old woman. The doctors say, I'm sorry, you can't get pregnant. God says, I say you can. And guess what happens. The report of the doctor and the report of the Lord always go with the report of the Lord. The Lord says, I'm bringing a baby through you, sir. She left, named him Isaac, which means laughter. Isaac came. And as a result, a story goes on by eight.

It says he was even though he was past age, these things were happening. And it says in verse 13, all these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised. They only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on Earth. We are aliens and strangers on Earth only here for a little while. But I'm challenging you guys to something really radical today, and that is that you would truly take the chair that you're sitting in and imagine that the chair that you're sitting in is the

hand of the Lord. And even as you all are sitting back and relaxing, some of you falling asleep, some of you doing whatever it is you're doing. Bottom line is, is that God wants you to sit in him just like you're sitting in that chair by Faith Abraham, Isaac by Faith, Jacob by Faith, Joseph by Faith, Shadrach, Meshach. And I mean the list goes on by Faith, Moses. All these folks, by faith, by faith, by faith, by faith, by faith, you will sit on the hands of God and trust that God, in fact, will hold you.

But I'll tell you something. This faith doesn't only mean faith and obedience in the big things. It also means faith and obedience in the little things some of you can say, well, I don't commit murder. I don't commit adultery, I don't steal. But guess what? There's also the question, are you selfish? Do you respect people or do you care about anyone else? Those are, quote unquote, the little things. But when we have this faith in God and obedience to the things of God, the big things and the little things matter the same. We say God forsaking all I take you, I sit on you like I sit on this chair.

I trust you more than I trust that Biola University will give me a degree. I trust you more than that. My teacher will be able to teach me. I have faith and complete faith in you. Is there anybody here that would say, Yeah, I think I want to be in the Hall of Fame, I want to be a person that absolutely, positively would trust God?

It's going to take dedication. It's going to take being an impact player. It's going to take being consistent. But I don't know. I hate I hate to use these examples because people don't always like them. But there's there's something you can do that will help you if you want to be in the Hall of

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Fame, and that is to fix your eyes completely on Jesus, who happens to be the author and perfecta of our faith. Now, the best way that you can fix your eyes on Jesus and please, if you're not a football fan, just bear with me for a second.

Here's how you do this now. If you've ever watched a football game, there's a person who has the ball and then there's a person who blocks for the person who has the ball. Jesus is the pulling guard. You've got the ball now. Would you stand up for a second in now? Now, listen, now I'm going to give you the ball. What's your name?

Speaker 4: Estrado

Johnson: Estrado.

Speaker 4: It's all good.

Johnson: It's all good. You got the ball? I'm Jesus. OK, faith says to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and the perfecter of our faith. Now, I don't want you all to tell the administration that we did this. My God, they might say that we got a little charismatic now. Amen.

Now here's how it works now, ladies and gentlemen, don't like football. I just want to make it very simple for you. You have the ball.

This guy's name is? Estrado. My my name is?

Audience: Keith

Johnson: No, I'm Jesus.

I am Jesus and you got the ball. I got what you need. 'm a BlackBerry, OK? OK, you follow me? Fix your eyes on Jesus. OK, OK, now somebody else is quite a blue boy, Bob Woodward said, but come on, come on. Are you all right? Now, that's not a stronghold of radical right, and he goes where he gets tackled by the devil. Right, right. Because I'm Jesus, I win every time. All

right. I never I never lose. Now, if I go right and he says, you know, I've got some pretty good moves, I think I can handle the devil.

He's going to go left and what's going to happen. Boom. Now, some of you have experienced boom. Guess what you get to do, pick up the ball and get behind. Give him a hand grab. But I'll tell you guys something about that, it takes it takes some humility to do what I just did, it takes some humility if you're going to follow Jesus, because you might want to go right. But he's going left. You might decide.

Well, I think I can handle this relationship. We won't get any trouble. I know. Jesus, you say don't do this, but we love each other. So we're going to go ahead and do it. We want to do. Whatever it might be, I don't I don't know what it is for you, but without faith, it's impossible to please God. Jesus is the author and perfecter of our faith. So if we want to please God, we've got to learn how to follow Jesus. Jesus goes right. We go right. Jesus goes left. We go left. He's the only one that's never lost. They tempted him, they beat him, they crucified him, they killed him and he didn't lose.

So here he comes to us now at Baylor University, says, hey, y'all, listen, I want to talk to you about this faith. And I wish you guys that this was the only one that I was going to do on faith, because this one is a little easier. The one that I have to do tomorrow on faith is is really a lot more difficult because I don't know if you know it or not, but there's another side of faith. Faith is not just Moses and Jacob and Abraham and Enoch. There's there's another side of faith.

And tomorrow we're going to talk about that. But today you have an opportunity to decide whether or not you're going to be a person of faith. A person is going to please God by your living in obedience and trust. But it will take you staying on the hip of Jesus Christ, who is the author and the perfecter of our faith. Please stand up and grab someone's hand.

A man across the aisle leaving my friends here, a man, what a great opportunity you all and I do say this sincerely, they're not they're are not students all over the country. They get to spend time throughout two or three days and just hearing the word and being challenged. I hope that you all will take this for granted. I know it's required, but guess what? It's also required that we have faith and without it, we can't please God. Let's pray now. Lord, we thank you so much for the opportunity to be here. We thank you for the other our students, wherever they're at Lord, we just pray that you'd be speaking to their hearts at their point of need.

Lord, those that are in the room today, Lord, we just ask that you would continually mold them and shape them, challenge them, bring them to a place, Lord, where they were, even though they may have failed you, that they would pick up the ball and follow you again. Lord, we're looking for renewal. We're looking for restoration. We're looking for a revival. God, where you would do something in the hearts of the students at Biola that would be heard even around the world because of your presence and your power. Thank you for faith. Thank you, God, that we can forsake all and take you. And as a result of that, in relationship with the almighty great God in the powerful name of Jesus, everyone said together, Amen, amen. You're dismissed.