Can I Believe In God?

Our Problem of Belief

1. The Korean Brain-Washing
   - The Communist Directive
     - American doesn't know why he lives.
     - No deep sense of right and wrong.
     - Shallow sense of loyalty.
     - Wants to belong to a group at any cost.
   - The Results of Three Years of Imprisonment.
     - 4 out of every 10 dies in first months.
     - Almost all the Americans become informers on each other.

2. Our Confusion About Belief
   - We become too tentative, we have no deep convictions.
   - Many of us have never really worked out our own faith.
     - We are immovable in spiritual convictions.
   - Many of us are hypocrites about our faith in God.
     - We live as if God did not exist.
2. The Obstacles to Faith in God

1. The Undue hill of Irrational Suffering
   - If there is a God, why doesn't He stop it?
   - The big war, the painful disease or the death of my child.

2. The Gross Materialism of Modern Man
   - We live by our senses, and by cause and effect.
   - So God seems like a rather clumsy idea.

3. The Basic Spiritual and Intellectual Self-Sufficiency of the Modern
   - This makes difficult the basic humility necessary for faith.

To Believe or Not To Believe Is A Basic Assumption

1. To Believe in Life: Vast Assumption.
   - Ronald Haberly from Fearless in 1944
   "Faith is believing your life there is a God."

2. To Not Believe in God in Life's Great Negative Assumption.
The odds are all against you, the shells screaming over your head seem to mock at you. And there are comrades at your side who smile at you for a simpleton, but you lived on. You refused either to give in or to give up, for you knew that to surrender faith is to make the final surrender. It means subscription to the judgment that there is no sense and no purpose in life or custom, that the whole tangled story of the race is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.
The Reasonable Way to God

1. That the Order of the Universe Calls for an Order - Given.
   - The tuning of the solar system to the lighting of a candle calls for order.
   - The argument of the watch.

2. That the Inner Purpose of the Universe Calls for a Giver of Purpose
   - Amazing operation of the body.

3. That the Meaning of Mind Calls for a Supreme Intelligence

The Inner, Spiritual Way To God

1. There is a deep restlessness, which can only be satisfied when a man's life is centered in God.

2. That there is a deep sense of right and wrong, shame and guilt, which can lead a man to God.
3. That inwardly we know Jesus is with us about God.
   - Call God "Your Father."
   - Trust Him.
4.

When We Have Said All This, Do We Know God?

1. Difference Between Intellectual Acceptance and Inner Knowledge.
   - Swimming or Floating on Love.

2. It is the Simple - Hearted, Not the Intellectually Sharp.
   - Pure in Heart Shall See God.
   - Sacrifices of the Lord - Motion and Contented Spirit.
   - Way, the Truth and the Life.

3. Skin in the Great Argument of The 139th Psalm.
   - That we cannot escape or avoid the face of God.

What Difference Does This Make?

1. That He Gave Me Deep Fundamental Purpose.
2. That I Have A Source of Peace.
3. That I Have A Verdict for Right and Wrong.
4. That I Can Become Like God.
First Baptist Church
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
September 11, 1960

Broadcast on Station KELO

Eleven O’Clock

“The Lord is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life: of whom shall I be afraid?”

ENTERING THE TEMPLE
Organ Prelude—“Fantaisie in A Major” Frédéric-Auguste Franck
(Congregation in Silent Prayer)
Choral Call to Worship—“The Lord Is in His Holy Temple”
Processional Hymn—“Lead, Kindly Light” Widor
Invocation
Lord’s Prayer and Gloria

OPENING OUR LIVES TO HIS PRESENCE
Reading of the Holy Scriptures—Psalm 139
Choral Call to Prayer—“Hear Us, Our Father”
Pastoral Prayer
Choral Response—“Lord, Give Ear to My Prayer”
Anthem—“Lead, Kindly Light” Karlheinz Böhm

Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom, Lead Thou me on!
The night is dark, and I am far from home; Lead Thou me on!
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see the distant scene—
One step enough for me.
I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou shouldst lead me on;
I loved to choose and see my path; but now lead Thou me on!
I loved the garish day, and spite of fears, pride ruled my will:
Remember not past years.
So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on,
O’er moor and fen, o’er crag and torrent, till the night is gone,
And with the morn those angel faces smile;
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile!

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS
Christian Greetings
Receiving our Tithes and Offerings
Organ Offertory—“Adagio” Third Symphony
Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

THE PREACHING OF THE WORD
Vocal Duet—“O Lord, In Thee I Trust” Herrmann Hammerel
Mrs. James Smart, contralto
David Sorensen, baritone

Sermon by Pastor Fredrikson

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7:30 P.M.

Prelude
Call to Worship and Invocation
Period of Hymn Singing
Scripture—II Corinthians 5
Prayer
Greetings and Announcements
Hymn
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Evening Meditation by Pastor Fredrikson

"Ministering to a Procession"

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6:00 p.m.—Deacon's Training Class
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Group II—Mrs. E. O. Dietrich, 2704 Wood Drive
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Group V—Mrs. Ernest Hoffman, RR#3, Go west on Highway 16 to tank road, 1½ mile south to Terry Drive, charcoal house on east side of road.
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Rev. Albert H. Babcock.........................Christian
Rev. James E. Rowe..............................New Life

**Secretaries:**
Miss Winifred Jones.........................Financial
Miss Margaret Clark.........................Pastor's Assistant
Mrs. Clarence Anderson.....................Church Hostess

**Musicians:**
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Dr. Maynard Berk.........................Organist
Mr. Harold Wortman.........................Youth
Miss Lois Harchanko.........................Children

**Sextons:**
Mr. Frank Weins
Mr. Warren Dolan
Mr. Lamont Reichelt

Mrs. Hilda Bockelman
Ministering To A Procession

- Students coming and going - Procession
- Clerics Ministering To God
- Memories of Sioux Falls College

1. The Contribution of Teachers
   - Dr. Harold M. Jordan
   - Dr. M. H. Martini
   - Dr. A. W. Fairman

2. A Fellowship Where You Are Accepted
   - Plain simple Young people.
   - George Collins, Bob Welding, Bob Dale

3. There Are All Possibilities Of Discovering Yourself
   - Many Creative Decisions
Discerning About His Church

1. Characterized by pioneering spirit.
   - Its beginning, Its difficulty.
   - Willingness to try new things.

2. Characterized by strong personalities.
   - Mrs. Charles Hepdon.
   - Mrs. A.W. Palmer.
   - Anne Drogemau.

3. Characterized by deep, inner unity.
   - Many differences, but a basic commitment to
   - Peter Cushing.
Possible Criticisms of Course

1. Large do it is uninformative.
2. Might be Modernistic.
3. Might be full of rich people.

Our Call To Everyone

1. Deeper Understanding of Our Values
2. Higher Holier Understanding of Worship
3. Deep Involvement in the Fellowship
   Small Groups
4. Engaged in Our Human Task.
   - Minister of Reconciliation.
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