SINGLE ALLIANCE 05/27/07 FAITH FACTS- "THIS IS FAITH"

I. Introduction

- A. This week I am going to talk about faith
- B. Vince Lombardi talked about the basics- we often miss it on the basics- This is faith.
- C. What many consider faith is not really faith
- D. Don't settle for the imitation

II. True faith

- A. True faith comes from the Word of God-Romans 10:17- what word?
 - 1. Logos- the said word
 - 2. Rhema- the saying word- the communicated word
- B. Faith comes by the rhema word of God
 - 1. (YLT) so then the faith *is* by a report, and the report through a saying of God,
 - 2. (Mat 4:4 NKJV) But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD.' "
 - 3. We need a proceeding word from God for our faith to grab onto.
- C. God has ordained that faith be connected to rhema and not directly to the logos
- D. Many have heard the logos and try to act on it but fail
 - 1. Ex. girls drowned trying to walk on the water
 - 2. Peter walked on the water because of the spoken command of Jesus
- E. The logos is living- Heb. 4:12- Rhema is the living word alive in your heart
- F. Rhema is the processed Logos in your heart- ex. Pollen turned to honey
- G. The Logos is alive but rhema is alive to us.

III. Assurance comes from rhema-Romans 10:17

- A. Assurance is a key to faith
- B. Pistis means persuasion, conviction, reliance based upon evidence
- C. We must believe in our heart- this is assurance- I know that I know
- D. (Heb 11:1 NASB) Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
 - 1. Faith is assurance in the heart
 - 2. Assurance in your heart is the title deed for what you asked for.
- E. (1Jo 5:14 NKJV) Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 1Jo 5:15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.
 - 1. confidence and assurance is the same thing. It comes by knowing the will of God which is the rhema word.
 - 2. We often try to operate in faith without assurance in our heart- without rhema from God
- F. Rhema can come in a minute or over weeks. Don't pray without it!
- G. Rhema takes time with God. We would all love to pull out the logos and in a few seconds pray that and walah here is what you asked for.
- H. Many think the bible is full of codes that you look up and then call in and give the code and get what you want. God wants a relationship.

IV. Building assurance

- A. Pray- e.i tongues- pray out mysteries
- B. Meditate on the Logos
- C. Confess your sins- 1 John 3:21- sin cripples confidence and assurance
- D. There is only one Rhema-Maker and that is the Holy Spirit. You are not the rhema maker! You cannot get anyone to get what you get.

V. Faith is now

- A. Hebrews 11:1- Faith is the substance.. Faith is present tense.
- B. Faith dwells in the now and not the future. Hope is the confident expectation of the future.
- C. Hope is what can and will be, faith receives it now as a present reality.
- D. Many think that faith is believing that something will manifest that they prayed for. This is hope. I am going to be healed.
- E. Mark 11:23- "Shall come to pass" is not future tense in the Greek. It is present tense. Mar 11:23 For most certainly I tell you, whoever may tell this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and doesn't doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is happening; he shall have whatever he says.
- F. Mark 11:13-14- Jesus believed that what he said was happening and left and had to be shown the tree the next day!
- G. Faith in most cased must be acted upon to release the grace of God. This is done by words or/and actions.
- H. James 2:18
- I. James 1:21-25- We are blessed in the doing- not because of it.
- J. (ESV) To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power, 2 Thess. 1:11
- K. Acts 14:8-10- The man had faith to be healed but he was healed when he acted in faith
- L. There are many examples of people receiving in Jesus ministry when they acted upon what they believed- woman with the issue of blood, blind man washing, centurion...
- M. Are you in faith?
 - 1. Do you have inner assurance?
 - 2. Are you at peace?
 - 3. Do you have joy?
 - 4. Romans 15:13