



Searching for Faith: A Skeptic's Journey

W. Ross Winterowd

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Description Searching for Faith: A Skeptic's Journey is intended for the general reader. It is not a scholarly book; however, it is the result of a decades-long interest in how readers read and how texts convey their meaning, leavened by a very personal commitment to the quest for faith. It explores timely questions that must concern anyone who thinks about faith, particularly insofar as faith is based on the Bible. Readers are invited to join the author in thinking about faith and the individual's own history; the nature of prayer; the problems of reading scripture; the nature of sin and guilt; the apparently insuperable enigmas of the Bible; conceptions of God; the "messages" that the Bible conveys; and capitalism and Christianity. Finally, Searching for Faith offers a view of faith based on the great poetic and pragmatic traditions of the United States: the philosophy of William James and John Dewey and the poetry of Walt Whitman and Wallace Stevens. Written in a graceful, accessible style, Searching for Faith is an introduction to faith that rational people can embrace. About the Author W. Ross Winterowd is the Bruce R. McElderry Professor Emeritus, University of Southern California. He has authored, co-authored, or edited 22 books, including *The English Department: an Institutional and Personal History* (1998), *The Rhetoric of the "Other" Literature* (1990), *The Culture and Politics of Literacy* (1989), *The Contemporary Writer* (3rd, 1989), *Composition/Rhetoric: a Synthesis* (1986), and *Rhetoric and Writing* (1965). He has also authored numerous essays, reviews, and poems appearing in such journals and magazines as *College English*, *College Composition*, and *Communication*, *Journal of Advanced Composition*, *ADE Bulletin*, *Pre/Text*, and *Plainsongs*. He planned and founded the influential doctoral program in Rhetoric, Linguistics, and Literature at the University of Southern California, where he directed the program for twelve years during its period of tremendous growth.

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