

**“WHY FAITH MATTERS”**  
**SEPTEMBER 2009**

The title of David Wolpe’s recent book, Why Faith Matters, grabbed my attention. I picked it up and noticed that Rick Warren had written the Forward. On the first page, he writes, “My dear friend, Rabbi David Wolpe, has written a candid and captivating account of how his personal journey of faith began with doubt.” As a fan of Rick Warren, I take his recommendations seriously. He is right on target when he encourages us to read his friend’s book.

Why Faith Matters begins in a hospital room where two men are talking about their chemotherapy treatments. One of them is Rabbi David Wolpe, who had suffered from lymphoma. The exchange between these two men lifts up the struggles and fears that many face. Where is God? Is my cancer a punishment? Will there be an afterlife? Do I have any reason for hope? Is my faith just foolishness?

If you have ever asked yourself these questions, then I would like to invite you to a class where we will go through David Wolpe’s remarkable book. On Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. we will begin in classroom 4 of Smead Hall. You do not have to have a copy of Why Faith Matters. Each week we will talk about the themes that are found in the book’s eight chapters. Some of the themes are: *From Faith to Doubt*, *Does Science Disprove Religion?*, *Reading the Bible*, and *Is Religion Good for You?*

I hope that you will join us for this new class. After all, would Rick Warren steer you wrong?

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