Zachary Ballard

Mr. Bigelow

English 10

April 10,2014

Elie Wiesel’s Faith

 Faith is: Believing in something that can’t or isn’t proven using proof or data too prove it is true. Anyone can have faith whether it is religion, philosophy or just what you believe in as a person. In *Elie Wiesel’s* book *Night,* it shows the progression in a Jewish boy’s faith through his experiences in the Holocaust. This faith was very strong at first, and then it started diminishing till he had nothing of the sort.

 At the very beginning of the book it showed Elies’s strong faith in God. “By day I studied Talmud and by night I would run to the synagogue to weep over the destruction of the Temple.” This quote shows that each day and night hour by hour he would worship and believe in God. By studying his scriptures and crying over the destroyed temple of his god. That shows so much Faith in what he believes is true.

 Throughout the rest of the book Elie seemed to have a huge drop in the strong Faith he had. Elie was a Jewish boy and he was sent to concentration camps to be killed and tortured because he was Jewish. During the mess of his torturous situation, anyone that disobeyed rules of the camp would get punished (hung). There was a little boy who looked like an angel from god and had a gleam in his face as if he was an angel. The boy disobeyed one of the rules and was sentenced to be hung. The boy was hung but was too light to be strangled right away and he just hung there and squirmed, choking to death, and the prisoners were forced to watch. “Behind me, Ii heard the same man asking: “For God’s sake, where is God?” And from within me I heard a voice answer: “Where He is? This is where-hanging here from this gallows…” This quote states that Elie felt God died through that “angel” and nothing can help their misery.

 Towards the end of the book Elie loses complete and all of his faith. There was a holiday in which the Jews fast, but Elie didn’t fast. “I did not fast. First of all, to please my father who had forbidden me to do so. And then, there was no longer any reason for me to fast. I no longer accepted God’s silence. As I swallowed my ration of soup, I turned that act into a symbol of rebellion, of protest against Him.” Elie did not want to fast for a God he didn’t believe in anymore and he respected his earthly father more than his heavenly father with that act of rebellion he no longer believed in god.

 To conclude, Elie had so much faith at the beginning to worship all day, every day and then he wouldn’t follow a holiday exercise that he normally would because he lost his faith; But I do believe he still had a small light in is soul of his Faith during that terrible time.