Subject: New From St. Francis Episcopal Church

From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" < vicar@stfrancisva.org >

Sent: 4/29/2014 1:12:59 PM

To: "Larry" < lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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April 30, 2014

Returning to Your Base Gift

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Ephesians 4:7

Gifts

Every once in a while someone brings up the topic of taking a spiritual gifts

survey so that the members of your congregation will know what they can do the best and how they can contribute the most. I like the desire to see everyone doing what they are best suited to do for the good of all. I find, however, that the New Testament limits that kind of "spiritual gifts discovery" to only five gifts of all the gifts listed in the New Testament (some say there are 27, some say 29, some say it is only a starter list and there are many more not mentioned). So, what's the difference between the five gifts mentioned above and the rest of them?

Gifts of the Spirit/Gifts of Christ

Most of the gifts listed in the New Testament are gifts of the Holy Spirit. They are given to us for one time use only in any given situation. You may receive the same gift many times over the course of your life. You can also receive all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit anytime and anywhere. They are for you to extend the Kingdom of God in the power of the Spirit. The gifts of Christ, on the other hand, are part of who you are. You are created by Jesus with a base gifting. These giftings are mentioned in Ephesians 4:11-apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. You are one of these. When all five are relating well together the whole church fellowship is equipped to do the work Jesus calls us to. So, a gifts survey may help you be more clear about the gift you were created to be by Jesus- apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor or teacher. Working in the gifts of the Holy Spirit means being responsive to what the Spirit of God wants of you anywhere, anytime.

Try it out! Use one of these methods to uncover your base gift:

Online surveys:

From 3dmovements

http://mikebreen.wordpress.com/2011/05/30/free-online-fivefold-ministry-test/

2. From J.R. Woodward

http://jrwoodward.net/equippers/

Read J.R. Woodward's brief description of the 5fold ministry. Click on the Equipper Assessment icon and follow the prompts

Discussion format:

Answer these questions for your self. Ask others to share with you their thoughts about you in relation to these questions.

What do I enjoy doing? Where am I fruitful? What do others tell me I do well?

Let me know how it goes vicar@stfrancisva.org

For everyone attending St. Francis this coming Sunday, May 4th: Please use one of the above options to uncover your base gift so that you will be able to take part in the equipping activity during the sermon

Coming Attractions

Sunday, May 4, 2014 worship 10:00am. Base gifts discussion will take place during the sermon time.

Sunday, May 11, 2014 worship followed by pot luck 10:00am

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Good Will in Centerville that the mission to equip people to work and provide affordable merchandise would be very successful

Diocese of Virginia

time.

Congregations and clergy of Christ Church, Charlottesville; Good Shepherd of the Hills, Boonesville; St. James', Leesburg; and St. Luke's, Alexandria.

Metropolitan Richmond

For the Churches and religious institutions of Metropolitan Richond: hat the true light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ may awaken and heal every heart in every corner of Richmond, Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, Goochland, and the surrounding counties and towns.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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