

Subject: New From St. Francis Episcopal Church
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 5/28/2014 3:45:16 PM
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St Francis



May 28, 2014

How Do You Know That Was God?

*The prayer of a righteous person
has great power as it is working . . .
James 5:16*

A Frequent Question

It is not at all unusual for someone to ask me, "When I pray how do I know I am hearing the voice of God?". Most of the time this is a very sincere question. The person asking is usually a faithful member of a church who has sought to live a good life and take part regularly in the worship of the church. Usually I encourage them to keep praying, reading the Bible, attending worship, and doing good works. As time goes on the voice of God will become more familiar. That answer helps a little bit. A few people (very few) find it meets the need. So, what is missing?

Unity

One of the results of equipping and encouraging each other to do the work of ministry is that we come to experience unity in the knowledge of the son of God (Ephesians 4:13).

Many people maintain a personal practice of prayer and devotion in which they come to know something of Jesus. That is a wonderful part of growing in the Christian Faith. It is also limited to what we are able to perceive on our own. Through each other we can perceive more of Jesus than we can individually. Unity in the knowledge of the Son of God means that we have a very full picture of Jesus. A fuller picture of Jesus, a more complete knowledge of Him through each other, will equip us to recognize His voice more deeply. It is for many of us the missing link in our prayer life.

Challenge

How is God asking you to join in with the building up of the Body of Christ this summer.

Is it to give more of your heart to Him in worship? Is it to encourage others in the fellowship of your church more richly? Is it to make a friend of someone who does not know Jesus just to be their friend?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, June 1, 2014 worship at 10:00am

Wednesday, June 4, 2014 worship at 6:00pm

Sunday, June 7, 2014 Pentecost Sunday worship at 1:00am followed by pot luck.

Experimental Wednesdays

This summer we are trying out a new service time as an experiment. We have two reasons for this:

1. Many of our newest members have jobs or family situations in which they are not free to attend worship on Sunday mornings sometimes, if not most of the time.
2. Many of the friends of our members who have never been to St. Francis would find it

possible to worship God with others at a time other than Sunday morning.

First and third Wednesdays of the month during the summer we will have worship 6:00pm. Is there someone you know who would benefit from that worship time?

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For the Aspire Dance Academy, Lauren Gibson, owner/Director, that many would learn the powerful art form of dance and come to worship God more deeply through that means.

Diocese of Virginia

For the congregations and clergy of Christ Church, Alexandria; Holy Comforter, Vienna; and St. Mary's, Goochland they they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Metropolitan Richmond

For the criminal justice system in Metropolitan Richmond: For all who are incarcerated in jails and prisons, their families, and their loved ones.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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