

Subject: An Acceptable Imitation
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 1/21/2015 7:07:06 AM
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S Francis



January 21, 2015

An Acceptable Imitation

*Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children.
Ephesians 5:1*

The Genuine Article

How often have you heard someone, especially a sales representative, say, "accept no imitations"? The message is only their product is the genuine article. Everything else would be a copy, a "cheap" imitation produced to ride on the coattails of a successful, superior product. That may be very true in retail and industry. When it comes to following Jesus the opposite is true.

Following Well

To follow Jesus means to live in a way that others know what Jesus is like from looking at your life. In other words, living a Christian life is essentially imitating Jesus. Following Jesus is imitating Jesus. None of us is a perfect representation of Jesus, of course! However, following Him means you are submitting your life to Him in a way that He flows through you to others. It is more than you being all you can be so God can bless those efforts. It is you following His lead in such a way that His life flows out to others. It means knowing Him well enough to follow Him.

Following Today

How would you get started with following/imitating Jesus right now? The basic practice is to catch what He is saying to you and do what He asks you to do about that. Turn to Him, even right now right where you are, and He will turn to you. Ask Him what He wants to tell you and listen. Something will come to mind in some way. Ask Him what He wants you to do about what He has said. Before taking that step, check it out with another Christian whose judgement you trust. You will find that Jesus is asking you to imitate Him and He is giving you the power to do just that.

Coming Attractions

Sunday, January 25, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Sunday, February 1, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Sunday February 8, 2015 worship at 10:00am followed by pot luck

Wednesday, February 11, 2015 vestry meeting 4pm

Sunday February 15, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Wednesday February 18, 2015 Ash Wednesday service 6:15pm

Food Collection for the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services Food Pantry every Sunday. Please bring non-perishable food to donate. Place your donation in the box provided in the vestibule.

Centerville Circle of Prayer

Zenegy Massage, Jody Hauschild, owner, that many people in this area would experience increased health.

Diocese of Virginia

For all clergy and lay delegates of the diocese of Virginia

Metropolitan Richmond

To overcome ignorance, indifference, resentment, and bitterness with regard to race in both private and public life.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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