

Subject: No More Teacher's Dirty Looks
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
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June 10, 2015

No More Teacher's Dirty Looks

*May my teaching drop as the rain . . .
Deuteronomy 32:2*

The Story

Do you have some good memories of your time in school? Maybe you have some bad memories? Do some of those memories, good or bad, involve some of your teachers? This phrase from Moses' address to Israel comes up in the readings for Morning Prayer today. Moses is addressing Israel at the time when leadership is going to transfer from him to Joshua. Moses took the occasion to draw all of Israel back into the story in which they belong, the story of how God pursues us no matter what so that we can

become His people. He is a teacher that does not give dirty looks.

Teaching

Moses prays at first what he says will be teaching that drops like rain.

There are two dynamics at work behind this prayer. One is teaching is a source of life just like rain is to us. Teaching is much more than transmitting information. Teaching sparks the desire to learn, grow, and live into the future.

The Teaching Gift of Christ

The second dynamic involves Jesus distributing His gift of teaching to some members of His church. As those Christians grow into mature followers of Jesus using the gift He has given them the whole church is able to know the story to which we belong. We are also more able to live out the hope of the future of God's kingdom in what we do today. In that way the teaching Jesus delivers through His people drops like rain. As He said through Isaiah His word is like rain and snow, it falls to the earth and will not return empty. As He said through Ephesians His word is like water that purifies us and washes us clean. Those are the results of the teaching ministry of the church. What will you look to receive from God the next time you are listening to a sermon or attending a bible class? How will you put what you have received into practice? Who will benefit through you as you receive teaching which is like drops of rain and get God's direction on how to live it out day by day?

Coming Attractions

Wednesday, June 10, 2015 Vestry meeting 4:00pm

Sunday, June 14, 2015 worship 10:00am followed by pot luck. Bobbie Leviness teaching on the labyrinth

Sunday, June 21, 2015 worship at 10:00am.. Bill Wells preaching and presiding

Please bring nonperishable food on Sunday mornings to share with the Goochland Free Clinic and Family services food bank.

Summer Mid week services on Tuesdays July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, 11, 18, 25 at 6:15pm

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For Wally's Auto, Walter Ford, owner, that the employees would lead healthy, strong lives, and many people would be well served in the community through this business.

Diocese of Virginia

For the congregations and Clergy of Pohick, Lorton; St. Thomas', McLean; St. Gabriel's, Ashburn; Grace Church and St. Mary's, Berryville; St. Luke's-Wellington, Alexandria; St. Alban's, Annandale., that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit

Metropolitan Richmond

For the criminal justice system in Metropolitan Richmond: For the police, judges, lawyers and court personnel, correctional officers and institutions, juvenile detention facilities, and probation officers.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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