

Subject: Faith
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 7/16/2015 11:12:43 AM
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St Francis



July 15, 2015

Faith

*He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 16:15-17*

Do You Believe?

When people are asked this question often the assumption rolling around in their minds is belief is something that must be produced by my own efforts, assessments, and decisions. In other words, if I believe something it means I agree with it. Believing in that sense is intellectual assent or agreement. And, it is something you and I do within ourselves. Often we consider belief as intellectual assent the same as faith. There is really nothing wrong with that approach. It will not, however, sustain a Christian life.

Faith That Sustains

In the verses cited above we see Jesus asking Peter what he actually believes about Jesus. Peter gives a good and true answer. Jesus commends him because Peter did not come up with this belief on his own. Instead, it was given to him. Peter received this faith, this belief. The faith you receive is the faith that will sustain you and carry you to fulfill God's purposes in your life. The belief you build on your own can be argued away. The faith you receive from God is faith that will last forever (remember the three things that remain- faith, hope and love?). Your mind might change and so what you agree with would change. God's mind and character will never change. What God gives you will last forever.

Receiving Faith

What is God speaking to you right now? That will build your faith. What steps does He want you to take in order to receive more from Him and build the faith you have?

Coming Attractions

Sunday, July 19, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Tuesday, July 21, 2015 worship at 6:15pm

Wednesday, July 22, 2015 Caritas at 5:00pm at Christ Church.
Contact Jenna Nelson to sign up jnelson561@gmail.com

Sunday, July 26, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Our Missional Communities

The Parke will meet on August 16 at 5:00pm. Contact Richard Walker to sign up richardandhedy@yahoo.com

Symphony will meet on Sunday, July 19, at 9:00am at Symphony Assisted Living. Contact Bobbie Leviness to participate bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

Centerville Circle of Prayer

For CD's Barbecue that business would increase, many would be served well at this food stop in our community, and CD would be in good health.

Diocese of Virginia

For the campers, counselors, and staff of Shrine Mont Camps that all would encounter the Spirit of God in a fresh and powerful way while at camp this summer.

Metropolitan Richmond

For the Board of Supervisors of Goochland County, Susan Lascotte chair, Bob Minnick our district supervisor, that they may have a spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice faithfully serving in their offices to promote the well being of all people.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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