

Subject: Who Is That Blessing For?
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 7/29/2015 8:22:22 AM
To: "Larry" <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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S Francis



July 30, 2015

Who Is That Blessing For?

*And taking up the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people.
Mark 6:41*

Its In The Details

There is a very interesting detail in this story of the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand that can be easily missed. The detail is that the disciples distributed the loaves and fish to the crowd, not Jesus. It was to the disciples that Jesus gave the bread and fish, and then they in turn distributed it all to the crowd. It is most likely the bread and fish multiplied out of the hands of the disciples. Why do we miss that detail?

We assume that only Jesus would be holy and good enough to distribute bread and fish during a miracle. We project that onto the disciples thinking they have received something special from Jesus prior to this which no one else has received. The reality is that all ministry is the ministry of Jesus.

What is different about it to our way of thinking most of the time is that He chooses to perform his ministry through us- all of us. It's like the old Sunday School saying, "We are his hands and feet."

The Question Under the Details

When you receive something from Jesus who is that blessing actually for?

Many people take the position of a consumer of religious goods and services and think the blessing is strictly for them. They received it. They may have prayed for it, or been faithful in church for many years, and now it is part of what they are meant to receive. Others may take the opposite approach and think that the blessing is given to you to give away. Actually both are correct. If God gives you a blessing it is for your benefit and the benefit of those He asks you to bless in turn. Another old Sunday School saying comes to mind, "blessed to be a blessing." The dynamic at work here is that the more you give away the more you receive. You give away what He has given you so that you can receive more, in turn, to give away.

This is true for every aspect of the ministry of Jesus. What is He giving you today that you would give away? Once you do so prepare for more.

Coming Attractions

Sunday, August 2, 2015 worship at 10:00am

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 worship and healing service at 6:15pm

Sunday, August 9, 2015 worship at 10:00am followed by potluck.

Tuesday, August 11, 2015 worship and healing service 6:15pm

Wednesday, August 12, 2015 vestry meeting 4:00pm

Please bring nonperishable food items to worship to donate to the Food Pantry of the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services.

Our Missional Communities

The Parke will meet on August 16 for fellowship and pot luck at 5:00pm at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker. Please contact Richard at richardandhedy@yahoo.com

Symphony will meet on August 30, 2015 at 9:00am at Symphony Assisted

Living. Please contact Bobbie Leviness at bobbiedrew@yahoo.com

The Garden will meet on August 2, 2015 immediately after church

Centerville Circle of Prayer

Precious One Family Day Home, Simone Healy, owner, that this business would grow and be a safe place for children in our community to learn and grow.

Diocese of Virginia

For the clergy and people of Wicomoico Church, Wicomico, that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit

Metropolitan Richmond

For all workplaces and businesses: for safe, respectful work environments, healthy work ethics and attitudes, and sufficient salary and benefits for all workers. For workers and managers: for servant leadership, civic responsibility and ethical decision making.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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St. Francis Episcopal Church
PO Box 303
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

804-784-6116

vicar@stfrancisva.org
www.stfrancisva.org



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