

Subject: Snow
From: "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <vicar@stfrancisva.org>
Sent: 1/24/2016 10:13:43 AM
To: "Larry" <lckiddjr@gmail.com>

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The logo for St. Francis is displayed on a dark blue background. It features a large white letter 'S' on the left, followed by a red cross with a sunburst pattern behind it, and the word 'Francis' in a white serif font to the right.



January 24, 2016

Snow

For as rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty; but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:10+11

Disruption

Most of us in the Mid-Atlantic states are unable to get out to our usual corporate worship services due to the snow fall this weekend. The weather is disrupting many other aspects of our lives as well. While we often do not think of it this way we also find that just like the snow and rain the Word of God is disruptive to our lives. Rain and snow serve the purpose of "bringing forth life and giving growth." The Word of God brings forth the purpose of God. That purpose is the life and growth of the kingdom of God. This will strengthen our own hearts as well as our relationships. The Word of God will disrupt us to accomplish that purpose. This is a far more positive and strengthening disruption than most others.

Disruption in Your Life

One way to put the Word of God into practice lies in how we respond when God disrupts our lives. That disruption can be minor or overwhelming. It will always be for the purposes of transforming our lives and our communities. It will never be to punish us for sin since Jesus has taken that full punishment upon Himself. When God gets our attention (a "kairos moment" as we like to call it) we are being invited and challenged to take another step closer to Jesus. We make a path through the snow, as it were, that was not there before. We let the Spirit of God guide us in the next step as we take in the Word of God just like the ground takes in water from rain and snow.

Receive and Reply

Consider this:

1. What comes to mind as you are snowed in today?
2. Could it be that God is getting your attention about something?
3. Is God providing something to you or guiding you in some way?
4. How will you choose to respond to God right now?

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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