



The Shepherd's Voice

June 25, 2013

By Fr. Joe Rees

“What Spirit Are You Of?”

Jesus rebuked them saying, “You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.” Luke 9:55-56.

Now here’s a verse that you may not find in the ESV as the translators/editors decided not to print it; but, there’s a footnote in the passage that includes it. It is in many of the other versions of the Bible including KJV and NIV. Some manuscripts may not have included it in the original languages but I think it’s very appropriate of what Jesus would say to His disciples. The Good Shepherd came to ‘save’ lives, not destroy them!

The setting is in this Sunday’s Gospel lesson, Luke 9: 51-62. The disciples are being sent out by Jesus to proclaim the coming of the Kingdom of God and for the people to repent of their sinful ways. In one town, as they were approaching Jerusalem, the people did not receive them so the disciples are miffed. They say to Jesus, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” Jesus rebukes them for thinking this way. He asks them what kind of spirit is it that you have in your mind? That’s a question for us as well.

Many times, good and well-meaning Christians want to evangelize their friends or neighbors and the response they get is a put off. So, sometimes the temptation is to think negatively about them and write them off as well ‘going to hell’. But, the Lord, the Holy Spirit needs to be in control of our minds, not our own spirit that often is easily corruptible by

pride. This is what the disciples were affected by, their prideful and improper use of the authority the Lord invested into them. We sometimes want to see people change right away and open their hearts to the Gospel but we aren’t patient. Instead, thinking we have the authority to command them, we blurt out something that hurts our cause and the people we want to positively influence with the Gospel. The authority belongs to Jesus, not to me or us as we deliver the good news of His salvation. After all, it’s good news and we need to be good messengers.

Jesus came to save those who would believe in Him. Sometimes that takes a long time, many years, of prayer, and patience, and trusting in the Lord for the results of our faithful witness to others. Don’t give up. Keep the faith. The Lord will send His Spirit into their spirits to convince them of His great gift of eternal life for them. Keep praying and waiting upon the Spirit’s guidance and the right moment will occur for the door of their hearts to be opened. Then, they will listen deeply to the message of the Gospel. Finally, do not fear the loss of a loved one to eternal death. Praying and believing, the Lord will, always, respond to your prayers and bring His Spirit into the loved one’s spirit to cause them to as I say, ‘do business’, with the Lord. Jesus will ultimately ask them personally the question...‘do you now believe in Me?’

So, lifting these people up to the Holy Spirit’s work is having the right mind...the mind of Christ. Check what *spirit* we might be influenced by most. Is it the Lord or is it my frustration or fear talking?? Is it the Holy Spirit teaching and leading us how to witness or is it my pride trying to notch another one for the Lord?? (Who is it for?) These are the

questions that ought to lead us to making sure we have the mind of Christ. I pray we will all witness of the goodness of Jesus' love and mercy in His Good News of salvation through faith in Him. I pray that we each will take this responsibility and duty to witness of the Gospel seriously and engage in telling someone of the power of Jesus' saving love. He is the Savior! He's not the executioner. He is undaunted in His powerful love to reach as many as will want

to hear His voice and receive His eternal love. Trust in Him with all your hearts.

With hope for more to enter the Kingdom of God in our times,

Love in Christ,

Fr. Joe

Sunday Servers this week...

June 30, 2013		8:00 a.m. Service	10:15 a.m. Service
First Reader	1 Kings 19:15-21	Doug Hall	Cline Handy
Psalm Reader	Psalm 16	Choir	Pat Richardson
Second Reader	Galatians 5:1-25	Maureen Green	Jim Livingston
Intercessor		Acolyte	Acolyte
Lay Euch. Ministers		Joan Jacobs, Dick Phelps	Cline Handy & Carolyn Blumberg
Acolytes		Mitch Dubski	Rob A (C); Damon W (T1); Kai C (T2)
Welcomers		Paula Sholly	Paula Sholly
Ushers		Dick Sholly, David Green	Dink Nash, Ray Seibold, Jim Livingston, April Knowles
Vestry Person of Day	Carolyn Blumberg		
Healing Ministers		Joy Rosendale, Rudy Theobald	Kari Campbell, Connie Fowle
Announcer		Judy Gillease	Petey Seibold
Counters			Cline Handy, Michael Murphy

Vacation Bible Camp

God in Action

Summer Adventure Bible camp for children just finishing k-grade 5.

Tuesdays, from 6-8 p.m.

July 9, 16, 23, 30, & Aug. 6

It's a time to be creative, play games, and hear about a Big Story that you are part of. Bring your friends!

Call the church office to register.

Invite all the children of that age that you know.

Anglican Night at Petco Park. See the Padres play the Giants in the company of fellow Anglicans. Friday, July 12th.

We have the tickets now.

Everyone who wants tickets should bring their \$25/ticket fee to church on Sunday.

Checks should be made to Grace Anglican Church. We will have a bus as well for an additional 14.50 each.

Sunday at Grace

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Prayer Minister Training
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with
Worship Team

Safe Church Orientation

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. It's required for anyone who works with our children or who goes out to serve as Lay Eucharist Visitors.

Readings for Sunday

1 Kings 19:15-21
Psalm 16
Galatians 5:1-25
Luke 9:51-62

We are using the English Standard Version of the Bible and the Lectionary from the Book of Common Prayer (Year C)

This Week at Grace – June 25, 2013 – July 5, 2013

Tues. June 25

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing Prayer & Eucharist at CHC
6-8p.m. Vacation Bible Camp Prep. for "God in Action"

Wed. June 26

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting today
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

Thurs. June 27

7:00 a.m. Bible Study
11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at the Oasis

Fri. June 28

6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Healing

Sat. June 29

8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Worship Team rehearsal

Sun. June 30

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Safe Church Orientation
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Worship Team

Mon. July 1

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer

Tues. July 2

4:30 p.m. Healing Prayer & Eucharist at CHC

Wed. July 3

No morning Prayer
No staff meeting

Thurs. July 4

Office Closed – Happy Independence Day!

Fri. July 5

6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Eucharist

Rector's Bible Study
Is on hiatus until mid-August

Fr. Joe and Lucy will be away on vacation next week. They will be back in church on July 7th

Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer at Grace Anglican
All are welcome to attend.

Weekly – There are over 25 small groups meeting during the week. Check our newsletter for a list of all the groups or you can find the list on our website: www.graceanglicanchurch.com.

Up-coming events

July 9 "God in Action" Bible Camp- 6-8 p.m.
July 10 Soaking Prayer
July 12 Anglican Night at the Padres
July 16 "God in Action" Bible Camp- 6-8 p.m.
July 23 "God in Action" Bible Camp- 6-8 p.m.
Aug. 6 "God in Action" Bible Camp- 6-8 p.m.
Aug 11 All Parish Picnic & Celebration BBQ!

Tonight – 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. - Join the preparations for the **Vacation Bible Camp** that will be held in July. We need lots of hands and hearts to make the Vacation Bible Camp a memorable and transformational experience for the children who attend. Let your neighbor children know that they can come too. We would like to have at least 30 children come to the camp.