

From: **St. Francis Episcopal Church** vicar@stfrancisva.org  
Subject: Who Wants It More?  
Date: April 11, 2018 at 8:28 AM  
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# St Francis



April 11, 2018

## Who Wants It More?

*... you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood.  
1 Peter 2:5*

### ***What Do You Want?***

Often in my work as a leader I have wanted something to succeed. Usually the ministry I wanted to succeed was a lot more difficult than I had imagined. I would find myself feeling discouraged and wanting to quit, step back, or give it to someone else. I'm sure you can identify with those feelings. Underneath those feelings of discouragement was the thought, maybe even the belief, that God was not interested in the success of that ministry. Or, at least God was not going to put into it what I was putting into it. I never actually expressed that to anyone. However, just the thought that I was working as hard as I could and seemed to get nowhere showed I didn't really believe God was as committed to the success of that ministry as I was. It is easy to feel alone and bitter in such situations.

### ***What Does God Want?***

I have come to realize that God is actually more interested in the success of ministry than I am. God wants it more than I do. God wants to see the rule and reign of Jesus over all things more than I do, or am even capable of wanting. Beyond that, God actually wants me to grow into the likeness of Christ whether I fail or succeed! If I pay more attention to God, follow after God anywhere and everywhere, I will be much more likely to bear fruit in ministry and life. That takes turning my attention, heart, soul, and mind to the presence of God wherever I am any time at all. How have you seen this in your own life?

## Coming Attractions

### ***Wednesday, April 11, 2018***

6:30pm Theology on Tap at Keegan's. Contact Richard at [richardanheday@hayoo.com](mailto:richardanheday@hayoo.com)

7:00pm Caregivers' Supprot Group at Walker's. Contact Susan at [n1placesusan@gmail.com](mailto:n1placesusan@gmail.com)

***Sunday, April 15, 2018*** Worship at 10:00am

***Please bring nonperishable food to worship*** to be distributed to the Food Pantry of Goochland Cares.

***Centerville Circle of Prayer***

Virginia ABC Store 089, that all customers would be free of addiction and abuse of alcohol.

***The Diocese of Virginia***

For the people of St. Thomas, Richmond, Grace, Berryville, and St. Mary's, Berryville St. Gabriel's, Leesburg, and All Souls, Atlee that they may continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

***The Anglican Communion***

For the people of the Diocese of Cameroon - ( West Africa) [The Rt Revd Dibo Elango](#) that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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