

Who is on your throne?

No really, who?

I have been asking myself that question a great deal lately. Who is on my throne?

What inspired this line of thinking? I have been reading a truly phenomenal book, "The Pursuit of God" by A.W. Tozer. The author speaks to the issue of the many things that we place higher in importance than God including most often ourselves and wants and needs, our loved ones, and/or our possessions.

We tend to put things first or ahead of God. Yet God keeps welcoming us back with open arms and we keep looking at other things instead of God. We could talk about Michael Jackson and his rose covered gold casket that is worth more than many people make in a year. We could talk about his million dollar star studded funeral. We could talk about that all day, everyday, for several days. In doing so no time would be spent with God. It is a distraction, plain and simple. Distractions take up residence upon the throne.

For just a moment, right now, try this little exercise. Think about God. Listen for God. Listen to God.

How long can you do it? If you are like me, not long at all. A million other things come rapidly to mind. I have to do this. I have to do that. I have to do the other. I don't have time (for God?).

For just a moment, before the distractions, you glimpsed or listened for God and then the moment was gone and you were back to thinking and worrying or wondering about a dozen other things. That is how it is for the vast majority of us; we are easily distracted from God even when we seek God. If someone tells you they have this all figured out and spend time with God quite easily then wonder.

In the real world there are a million things that distract us (or at least me) from God. It might be wise to "capture" those distractions for a moment and wonder aloud about them. What are the common threads? When you are not worrying about an upcoming deadline or situation at work or difficult people or whatever else, what are the things that preoccupy your mind? What do you think about the most?

What would it look like if you thought about God the most or even just half the time?

What would it be like if you thought of God as nearby you wherever you go / whatever you do? What would it be like if you listened for God expecting to hear God? What if you could still or silence the cacophony of noises and distractions around you and listen for God and to God knowing that God spoke thousands of years ago and still speaks today?

God is not mute. Perhaps it is we (or at least sometimes me) who are deaf? Deaf may be too strong of a word. We are not deaf. We need only to learn how to listen.

I challenge you to take some time to listen for God and to God. Realize there will be a thousand distractions and million things for you to do. Take some time right now. It is important to spend time with God. God is right here and you can do it right now.

Pray this simple prayer from the words of 1 Samuel 3:9, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

May God Bless You as you seek God knowing God is with you always.

Fr. Steve, Vicar Prince of Peace

Join us for Sunday Worship at 7:30 and 9:00 am.

All are welcome to worship and to receive communion.