

"Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where
there is injury, pardon; where there is discord,
union; where there is doubt, faith; where there
is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may
not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved
as to love. For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it
is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen."

Prayer attributed to St. Francis, BCP

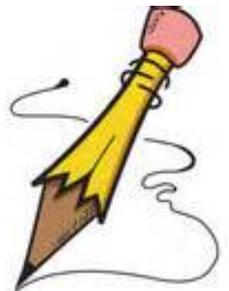
Personal Concluding Thoughts



Sermon Notes: "Being the Royal Priesthood"
2 Samuel 23.1-5, 1 Peter 5.1-7, Matthew 18.15-20

*"But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and
in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim)."*

-Romans 10.8



"Being the Royal Priesthood"

One of the primary acts of faith is to teach these stories, what God has done for us, to our children. Therefore, we all play the role of church leader to someone. As Peter indicates in his letter, we are all members of a royal priesthood. Leadership in the church is made up of the entire Body of Christ.

PERHAPS OUR ANTI-AUTHORITARIANISM CAN EASILY BE SUMMED UP BY ACKNOWLEDGING OUR OWN SELFISH DESIRE.

MARK DEVER

What came up in the sermon that you were surprised at? Did anything in the sermon speak directly to you, personally?

"AUTHORITY IN THE CHURCH, IN PARTICULAR, IS IMPORTANT, GIVEN THE INCREASINGLY POOR MODELS OF AUTHORITY WE SEEM TO HAVE ALL AROUND US TODAY."

MARK DEVER

The relationship between parishioner and pastor can easily be blurred, in good ways and in bad ways. Either, one thinks less of the other, or thinks to highly of the other. An imbalance of power or authority in a relationship can easily be harmful for everyone.

What do churches typically expect their pastors to do? What do churches expect her people to do?

Do you think there's anything churches typically expect pastors to do that they shouldn't? Or anything that churches don't expect but they should?

Read Romans 1 Timothy 3.1-7

Authority is based on trust and when that trust is broken it is not easily mended.

Paul presents a series of qualifications to be a leader, what are they (1-14)?

What does it mean to be 'above reproach' (v2)?

Why do you think hospitality is a qualification for an elder (v2)? What should Christian hospitality consist of?

"EVERY LOCAL CHURCH IN CHRISTENDOM, FROM GREEK ORTHODOX TO PENTECOSTAL, FROM ROMAN CATHOLIC TO BAPTIST, FROM EPISCOPALIAN TO LUTHERAN, FROM PRESBYTERIAN TO METHODIST, IS CONGREGATIONAL IN NATURE. THEY EXIST ONLY AS THE PEOPLE CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR ACTIVITIES - LEADERS MUST LISTEN."

What are some practical ways you can encourage these qualities in other church members?

What are some ways you can cultivate these qualities yourself?

"Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading"



-Oswald Chambers