

Greetings to all the Saints at Manatee Life,

SCRIPTURE:

John 14:9 (RSV) – Larger reading: John 14:5-14

“Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father’?”

STORY:

A college boy was traveling and stopped over in Boston to visit an old college friend of his fathers. He called to ask if it would be possible for him to come over. The response was, “By all means come on over.” The college student went to the front door and rang the doorbell. The old friend answered the door, but stood there for a long time without speaking. The boy broke the silence by asking, “Is there anything wrong?” “No,” was the old man’s response, “I just wanted to see if there is anything of your father in you.”

OBSERVATION:

Do you ever wonder what others see in you? That thought keeps going through my gray matter, especially as I age. What do people see in me? Not what can I do for them, but the reflective glory of the Heavenly Father.

It is a sobering thought that we just might be the only Christian some individuals might ever meet during their journey through this life ... and if that is true, what will they take away from the encounter? Will they have a better understanding of the love of God? Will they be able to close their eyes and have a clear image of what the Heavenly Father looks like? Will the glory of God radiate through our pores that they will have the experience of standing in the presence of God? Will they have the feeling that they have been touched by the Divine?

Is there anything of our Father in us? Does it show?

QUOTE:

“In order to have a spiritual life, you need not enter a seminary, or fast, or abstain, or take a vow of chastity. All you have to do is have faith and accept God. From then on, each of us becomes a part of His path. We become vehicles for His miracles.” – Paulo Coelho

PRAYER:

So live in us, O God, that others will be blinded by your glory and see only Jesus in our face and our actions. Amen.

And the faith journey continues, Pastor Jim

Jmartin450@tampabay.rr.com

386-795-5323

In-person worship begins October 25th