

Where do I fit in All Saints Wick?

Discovering my Passion, Gift and Style

Introduction

Here are some analogies of church. It's...

- 1 Like a football match- a whole lot of people in need of some exercise watching a few people who need a rest!
- 2 Like a jigsaw puzzle. Where do I fit? Am I even in the right puzzle? Some bits lie discarded (or out of choice) on the end of the table. Then there are the good souls who say 'Well if nobody else will fill that gap, I'll do it'...but they're not really 'cut out for the job'.
- 3 Like a Yorkshire dry-stone wall. A better picture than the jigsaw, because a strong construction, but not rigid- and adaptable.
(see I Peter 2: 4,5)

With that third picture in mind, we hope together to get some answers to the questions

- How can *my life uniquely* make a difference, not just in the life of All Saints, but in my neighbourhood, workplace, the world?
- How can *we, serving together*, be as effective as possible?

We're going to each look at this question from 3 directions:

- 1) What's my PASSION? (In what sphere can I be effective?)
- 2) What's my GIFT? (What can I do?)
- 3) What's my STYLE? (How can I contribute, given my personality?)

We are going to spend a Saturday morning, March 11, 9.30-12.30 looking together at the second of these- What's my GIFT?

In preparation (vital!) for that, there is some homework, hopefully fun, to do, in order to understand ourselves better- our individual PASSIONS and STYLES. We will end the Saturday morning by putting these all together to get a '3D' picture of ourselves, each a 'living stone', that will help us, each and all, to be more *fulfilled* (looking from our own perspective) and *fruitful* (looking from God's perspective).

I look forward to joining you then!

James Spanner

What's my PASSION?

Martin Luther King gave that famous speech 'I have a dream...'...He went on to explain what fired him up and gave him a reason for living. Some use more religious-sounding words like Burden, Vision, Call, Concern. We're going to call it PASSION.

PASSION is what fuels, energises you. We can feel we're 'running on empty', and suddenly remember something we intended to do, and, from nowhere, comes energy. (We have to do 'drudgery' as well, but as long as we're doing more that fuels us than drains us, we won't run out).

Mother Theresa, David Bellamy, Prof Brian Cox all have passions that are clear to see. We're going to do an exercise to help us (re)discover ours. (Re)discover- because sadly passions (through disappointment, mockery or others' discouragement, even in childhood), can die.

So turn to the sheet '**Where could I make a difference? finding my passion'**
Follow the instructions. Some questions you may find easy to answer, others difficult or impossible. Don't worry. Answer what you can, skip what you have to and come back to it as time allows.

What's my STYLE? (How can I contribute, given my personality?)

We're all different, and that can cause irritations! 'Why can't they be like me?' There are several personality tests – you may have heard of or tested yourself with the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, or the Enneagram. They can be very revealing and releasing.

We're just going to do a very simple test related to personality and service.

God in his wisdom has put people on this earth who love planning and timetables....and others who just love to 'go with the flow' and be flexible. It can cause conflict, but actually we need each other!

Now turn to the work sheet headed '**making a difference- in (my) style!**'