

11. Personal Spiritual Faith---Vince DiFilippo

I have no doubt there is a God. Based upon some of the things that have occurred in my life, I have no doubt that there was Divine intervention. I was raised Roman Catholic and attended a small parochial school for the first 8 years of my formal education. There, I received not only a good education but enormous education regarding God and Christianity, the Ten Commandments and teachings of the Bible. The nuns and priests that taught me were devoted people. To this day, I consider myself blessed being able to attend that little four room school. After my parochial education, I entered a public high school and received an excellent education there as well.

As a child, going to church was a regular occurrence. When I became older, my attendance would wane back and forth. Today, I attend church only occasionally but hope again to become a more regular attendee. However, this does not deter my spiritual faith. I literally pray every day. I make it a point to recite the Lord's Prayer, an Act of Contrition and other prayers as well. My goal is simple—live by the Golden Rule. I do not judge people. I may judge their opinion but not the person. Dr. King was correct in his reference to Jews and Gentiles, Catholics and Protestants, etc. I don't think God is interested in labels but rather what lives in one's heart. As I enter the final part of my life, I make it a point to be extra thoughtful and kind, understanding and generous.

It is said that many people receive a "calling" in life. If that is so, I believe my calling is public service. It is my passion and as an elected official, I work tirelessly for the people I represent. It can be challenging at times but I try my best to do the right thing. I know when I am troubled or feel down, God will help me. All I have to do is ask. I could not succeed in my passion without His guidance. When I pass on to the next life, God and only God will be my judge.