

Discovery Time

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Command Chaplain

This coming Monday is the Navy Birthday. It is also the day we will celebrate Discoverer's Day, formerly known as Columbus Day. It is the day we celebrate the spirit of those who have ventured out into the unknown regions of our universe in search of knowledge. They have been guided by their convictions and were prompted by a desire to discover the unknown.

I have made a few discoveries in my own life. One thing I discovered is that no matter how many years I spend in the sea services, I still get seasick. I have discovered that while I love many aspects of sea duty, I still prefer to be home with my wife and family. I have discovered that the Navy cannot send you where the grace of God cannot sustain you.

Most of my discoveries have been in my own life. I haven't found new lands or discovered a cure for any disease. I don't think I have discovered anything that hasn't been found by someone else before. In fact, one important thing I discovered is that no matter how many people have discovered some things, everyone needs to find them for themselves.

One thing that I discovered that was very important to me was the person I wanted to spend the rest of my life with. In fact, when I discovered her, I immediately knew that she was the one for me. I knew this because I already knew clearly in my mind what qualities I was looking for in a mate. When I found the person with those qualities, I took actions necessary to make sure she didn't get away.

Another thing I discovered was my personal need for a relationship with God. Even though my father was a minister and my mother's father was a minister, I learned that I could not receive salvation through them. Everyone is personally responsible for his or her own sin. My parents couldn't do anything about it for me. I had to take personal responsibility for it.

What I discovered in the process was that God wanted to have a personal relationship with me, but sin was preventing that from happening. I also discovered that since I did not have the means to overcome my own sin, God made provision for me. He did this through the person of Jesus Christ. It was a discovery that would change me for the rest of my life.

If you have not entered into a personal relationship with God, use the occasion of Discoverer's Day to discover one for your own.

Semper Fi in the Lord and I hope to see you in Church on Sunday.