

## Hollywood vs. Faith:

### A TV Actor Tells the Inside Story, with Humor

Everyone is hotly debating the influence of the media today, but few people are speaking a language that captures the attention of youth and adults, sheds new light - and ignites real laughter. Frank Runyeon does. And he just may change the way you and your kids relate to the media forever with his speech, *Hollywood vs. Faith*, coming to St. Anthony Church on Sunday, September 24 at 7 p.m.

Runyeon speaks with humor about his own experiences in the media, inviting his audiences to "look behind the curtain" at the wizards who have become America's storytellers. Drawing on examples from his 25 years in television, film and radio, Runyeon describes with humorous anecdotes exactly how the media work.

Runyeon should know. He is a veteran of over 1,000 television shows, most notably opposite Meg Ryan on *As the World Turns*, and on the Emmy Award-winning *Santa Barbara*. He also starred in the film *Sudden Death* and appeared in recurring roles on *LA Law*, *Falcon Crest*, *General Hospital*, and *Melrose Place*. He has hosted his own comedy talk show on top-rated KFI in Los Angeles and WCNN in Atlanta. And there is even talk of his launching a nationally-syndicated talk show soon.

But Runyeon is also a man

of faith, with impressive academic credentials. He graduated from Princeton University (he wrote his thesis on the Mass Media), continued his studies at Yale, and he recently earned his Masters, with honors, from General Theological Seminary. Over the past five years, he has taken a sabbatical from Hollywood to translate Biblical texts and perform them (to rave reviews) for hundreds of thousands of people in virtually every state in America.

Runyeon says that people continually ask him about his experiences in Hollywood, while he was touring his plays. Slowly his observations and stories grew into a speech.

In *Hollywood vs. Faith*, Runyeon urges his audience, both youth and adults, to think about the media, not just take a bath in them. He suggests, with humor, how to watch TV "inside-out." He discusses the subtle impact of commercial sponsorship, as well as the real reasons for all the sex and violence in the media, offering a fresh perspective as an actor who desires truth in storytelling, not censorship.

Finally, Runyeon identifies what he calls the "Three Big Lies" the media inadvertently teach and shares personal experiences that illustrate how deeply Americans have come to believe in them. He urges the audience to

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think clearly as they make their own life choices and learn to enjoy the mass media's wizardry without believing too deeply in the world of Hollywood.

Turn off your TV for an hour, and bring your kids. You'll

be glad you did. His speech is as funny as it is insightful. For more information, call 758-4848. Donations are \$5 per person and \$10 per family.

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