

The Work of the People

Resurrection Now

Delighting In Our Salvation

Introduction

“God comes to us disguised as our life.”
—Fr. Richard Rohr

I drove with my family from Houston, Texas to Los Angeles California on a writing sabbatical. My goals were to write, write, and write. I didn't realize how something as simple as watching the subtle shifts in topography, the hues that change from state to state, the different accents, styles and people groups would open me to the vast and very specific love of God.

Observing simple shifts like this can inspire an opening of the heart, a desire to collaborate with God, the Artist. And, when we are willing to approach life openheartedly, dramatic changes are possible.

It's possible that some of us have a rigid, static view of God and faith. It's actually even more probable that each and every one of us go through periods of static faith, of solidifying a very moving God. There are many reasons/causes, too many to count, some very painful. What is true in the end, is that at some point, maturing in our faith, becoming closer to God in heart and ways, becomes our own responsibility. Growing in our faith requires us to move out from where we started from or are stuck, to an agile continuance with God—I cannot tell you how many times I have felt like I'd arrived at my destination only to realize I also just happened to have arrived at a new beginning.

Just like any journey, we may have best laid plans and a dreamy idea of the experience we are creating for ourselves. Even if there are some unknowns built into the itinerary like any great trip requires, there are definitely some expectations, possible delusions. It may be good for you to check those at the start here, remembering that wherever we go, there we are, so some of our stuff that needs working on is stuffed into the corners of our luggage and traveling right along with

us. But, like Rohr says so beautifully, “God comes to us as our lives,” so know that it’s also true that wherever we go, there is also the gift of God.

So, even if you have packed your fears, frustrations, resentments, ill-gotten beliefs, watered down or withered faith, there is also God. God reminding us we live in resurrection now, that we are enjoined to God’s eternity now, that we are made to co-create from our divine entanglement with the Christ mystery the goodness, beauty, and delight of a life with God. We get to delight in our salvation with God! To do that we have to move through our stuff and do our salvation work. We have to be willing to drink from a deeper well of thought and teaching. We have to be centered on God, and let God do God’s job of both expansion and drawing to throughout our lifetime.

Rohr spends a good portion of these films encouraging spiritual practices of contemplation as means of discovery and transformation, and so throughout I am sharing some ancient ways of contemplative spiritual practice with you. My goal is to create a breathing space through which we can consider Father Rohr’s insight and process just how “God is coming to us as our lives,” and enjoy the relationship that is available to us. Perhaps we can move the edges of our vision out and embrace experiences like salvation—not as an event with pre-requisites; rather, a process of growing in and through God’s love.

“Salvation in the Jewish scriptures is talking about liberation, fulfilment, life, wholeness, freedom, peace, NOW!”

—Fr. Richard Rohr

I don’t know about you, but this is very different than the narrative that came from the pulpits of my past. Spending thirty-five days traveling from Houston, Texas through the deserts of Tuscon and the red rocks of Sedona, Arizona, in and out of the verdant mountains of Southern California, and floating in the refreshing waters of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, I experienced a rerouting of my brain, a new beat in my heart and a fresh new tangible take on God’s love.

During that time the man who raised me had health issues that led to a long-term care facility, I shed some habits and relationships that were past their expiration date and tried something new every day. God met me at every turn of the daily tears, struggles and delights I experienced.

I got saved. Saved from deep sadness. Saved from panic and distress. Saved from fear. Saved from telling myself old stories about my own power and capability.

I write to you as a hopefully, continually transforming human. And I don't have to wait until the "end times" to see it. I day-by-day see it. I conflict-by-conflict see it.

As you experience these guides and films, I believe your journey will be a lot like mine. You will "mount up and soar on wings like eagles," savoring God's reflection in you and beaming at God's opinion of you. You are loved, adored, and wanted by a loving God. You are chosen. Take God's invitation to experience a ride of salvation and resurrection unlike any sermon or religious message you have ever heard.

Enjoy your trip.

- Danielle Fanfair

This series includes six sessions:

Session One // Running from Resurrection

Session Two // Distorted Bible Filters

Session Three // En Christo

Session Four // Fast Food Christianity

Session Five // Jesus Hermeneutic

Session Six // Anti-Septic Christianity

Series on TWOTP here:

<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/bundle/resurrection-now>