

Born to Connect (Part 2)

We each started the human journey born incomplete - born separated from our Creator. Because we were "created with eternity in our hearts" (Ecc 3:11), we were born with an eternal "itch" only the Uncreated could "scratch". We tried to find life and organize life and draw life from God-less objects only to fail miserably... or to succeed even more miserably!

God's intention is to awaken our attention to our need for an unbroken connection with Himself. Each "crisis", every "mess", all life's "transitions" - meant to arouse us to the God who came "to seek and to save that which is disconnected (lost)" (Lk 19:10). Through the gift of Himself to any and all who will receive Him, He connects us to Himself in an indivisible and unbreakable oneness (Jo 17:20-24).

We are eternally connected to the God Who is FOR us in a bond of uncommon (alien!) love. Brought into a family of Fearless Lovers - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - His intent and action to love us into being sets the course of our lives. We learn to find Him trustworthy for every one of His directives and His truth increasingly sets us free from what is "not" God. We are forever connected to the God Who delights to live IN us - we live life in this world joined to the One not of this world (I Cor 6:17). A new kind of someone (II Cor 5:17) who so intimately shares life in common with the Uncommon (Holy!) One that whoever believes in Him lives beyond the grasp of condemnation, death, Satan or hell. With the Supplied Life of Christ within we have holy and righteous options for any contingency. We are also connected to Someone Who desires to live His Life THROUGH us. This is how we become uncommon expressions of the Life for us and within us. Our connection to Divine Life has an inherent orientation to participation. Graced with a new response "ability", we are free to cooperate with His operation of Indwelling Life (Ga 5:1,13). Living now by faith in God's Life for us, in us, and through us we become participants in the Life of God - "co-laborers" (II Cor 6:1) - our person connected to His Person living as one for the sake of other persons.

This co-operation doesn't come from learning more, but from learning Him (Jo 17:3; Eph 4:20). It doesn't happen by trying hard, but, out of trusting Him (Jo 7:38). We are moved from dis-connect to connection... from separation to union... from the "far country" to home... by grace through faith. And just as we received Him we walk in oneness with Him (Col 2:6).

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Greetings

We have just finished our Florida retreat and it seemed to be an enjoyable and profitable time together. With friends from Michigan, New York, Kentucky, Virginia, South Carolina, Texas, Georgia, and Florida it was quite a representation of God at work through His people strategically placed throughout our country. If all you do is judge by appearance, listen to the broadcasts of "talking heads" who need to keep up their ratings, or draw your cues from the prince of this world rather than from the King of Kings, you might want to give up and throw in the towel. But, "for whoever is joined with (the Living One), there is hope" (Ecc 9:4) - a passion for what is possible because of Who is with us in whatever we are in! You might be deceived (like Elijah was) into thinking you are the only one and forget that God has His people where He wants them for His purposes (I Kgs 19). Or, have we forgotten "one will put a thousand, two will put ten thousand to flight" with God as our Life? (Deut 32:30)

Let us never forget Who has said, "I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD!"

(P.S. If you gave a cash offering at the Florida Retreat and want a tax deductible receipt, please contact me with the donated amount if you did not attach your name to the gift!)



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14

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For a humble and holy boldness to our
witness



To say what God says so we may begin to
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