



Resurrection has begun. We are part of something rare, something precious, something utterly revolutionary.

It feels like an uprising. An uprising of hope, not hate. An uprising armed with love, not weapons. An uprising that shouts a joyful promise of life and peace, not angry threats of hostility and death. It's an uprising of outstretched hands, not clenched fists.

It's the "someday" we have always dreamed of, emerging in the present, rising up among us and within us. It's so different from what we expected—so much better. This is what it means to be en-route, walking the road to a new and better day. Let's tell the others: Christ is risen!

--Brian McLaren, *We Make the Road by Walking*, p. 170

"The Christ we seek is in us, in our inmost self ... is our inmost self, yet infinitely transcends ourselves. Christ himself is in us as unseen and unknown. We follow him. We find him ... Then He must vanish and we must go along without him at our side. Why? Because he is even closer than that. He is ourself." —T Merton

First, this happens in our times of Dark Night, in our times of **personal darkness**, our devastating losses, rejections, failures. And in times of **societal darkness**, our painful experiences of heart-break with suffering victims of war and abuse, and with the suffering of earth. In these times we are moved to a profound unitive relationship with Jesus crucified. This is no longer a dualistic relationship but a participatory love-relationship where we are no longer separate for the Crucified Jesus or any crucified other.

Second, as we are transformed through Dark Night experiences, the glorious **presence** of the risen Christ little by little transforms and exalts a person. This is the other side of the Dark Night revealing the Risen One in and as US. Now Christ's wounds shine brightly through us forever as the wounds of love within us. [Our wounds become a source of light, healing and hope for others.] Now "our every act is love." —Connie Fitzgerald, *DDH*, Chapter 10, summarized and adapted

The awakening of God within the human heart is experienced as God's waking up and gently breathing love from the very core of a person to every thought, emotion, desire, action. ...

The person then "knows" with a deeper kind of participatory love-knowledge, for when the Beloved, the Word "awakens" and "moves" in this way, altering permanently and radically one's vision of reality, then absolutely everyone and everything is experienced as indissolubly and harmoniously interconnected and part of an energizing Mystery that binds everything together.

—Connie FitzGerald, "Transformation in Wisdom," in *Desire, Darkness and Hope*, 287-9

Practice Resurrection: Gather yourself at the Source of Being ... Make that your dwelling place as you go through your day. Let your light shine from there to everyone you meet. Create spaces of welcome everywhere you go—in your home, at work, on a walk through your neighborhood or in the grocery store. Practice joy ... **PRACTICE RESURRECTION. WALK THE ROAD TO A NEW DAY BY LOVING.**

**INTENTIONALLY SHINE YOUR LIGHT TO EVERY DEAR NEIGHBOR:
CREATE COMMUNITY EVERYWHERE**

We are not saints, we are not heroes. Our lives are lived in the quiet corners of the ordinary. We build tiny hearth fires, sometimes barely strong enough to give off warmth.

But to the person lost in the darkness, our tiny flame may be the road to safety, the path to salvation. It is not given us to know who is lost in the darkness that surrounds us or even if our light is seen.

We can only know that against even the smallest of lights, darkness cannot stand. A sailor lost at sea can be guided home by a single candle.

A person lost in a wood can be led to safety by a flickering flame. It is not an issue of quality or intensity or purity. It is simply an issue of the presence of light.

—Kent Nerburn: *Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace*

