

THE WHOLENESS WHEEL



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Taking the Message Home – April 23, 2017

Rise up! Living a Whole Life in Jesus Christ!

Easter Season Message Series April 23 – May 28, 2017

*Today: Rise Up! Living a Whole Life: Intellectual Well-Being
(Philippians 2:5 and 4:8)*

KNOW WHAT?

To live the resurrected life in Christ is to live the whole life in Christ is to be a full human being in Christ. I would like this message series to convey not a prescription for how to be a better person, not another “to-do” list in spiritual practices, but rather a description for what can happen, something we are calling a full life, a whole life, when, as Dietrich Bonhoeffer puts it (see below), “one throws oneself completely into the arms of God.” This is what a life resurrected by Christ, not a life pushed and pulled together by our own machinations, can look like. Rise Up!

Dietrich Bonhoeffer on living a full life in Christ:

“In the last few years I have come to know and understand more and more the profound this-worldliness of Christianity. The Christian is not a homo religious (ed.: religious person), but simply a human being, in the same way that Jesus was a human being – in contrast, perhaps, to John the Baptist. I do not mean the shallow and banal this-worldliness of the enlightened, the bustling, the comfortable, or the lascivious, but the profound this-worldliness that shows discipline and includes the ever-present knowledge of death and resurrection. I think Luther lived in this kind of this-worldliness.”

“If one has completely renounced making something of oneself – whether it be a saint or a converted sinner or a church leader (a so-called priestly figure!), a just or an unjust person, a sick or healthy person – then one throws oneself completely into the arms of God, and this is what I call this-worldliness: living fully in the midst of life’s tasks, questions, successes and failures, experiences and perplexities – then one take seriously no longer one’s own sufferings but rather the suffering of God in the world. Then one stays awake with Christ in Gethsemane. And I think this is faith; this is metanoia (ed.: turning around, repentance). And this is how one becomes a human being, a Christian.”

(from German Pastor Bonhoeffer’s letter from prison on July 21, 1944 to his good friend and confidant Eberhard Bethge, less than one year before Bonhoeffer was executed in prison by direct order of Hitler just before the defeat of the Nazis and the liberation of Germany).

SO WHAT?


A Story of always wanting to know “why?”: St. Philip member Elaine Danweber

NOW WHAT?

Believe and Receive – Plan-Do-Check-Grow. Want coaching in how to live a whole life in Christ? See me! I can coach you!

Dr. Johan Bergh, St. Philip Lutheran Church...*In the Community For Good!*

Next Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

	<p>Worship ~ Sundays at 9:30am Sunday Gathering ~ 10:45am “coffee and goodies and conversation”</p> <p>St. Philip Lutheran Church</p> <p>1050 Boyd Drive Mt. Dora, FL 32757 (352) 383-5402 office@stphilplc.com</p>
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