

Phil 3:7-16**Paul was on a journey - 3:10-11**

- 1) To Know Christ
- 2) To Know the Power of Christ's Resurrection
- 3) To Know the Fellowship of his Sufferings
- 4) To Know his death in order to be raised from the dead

While there is much to focus on in this passage, at this time in the liturgical year our focus is drawn to the Resurrection.

“The power of his resurrection is the life-giving power of God, the power which he manifested in raising Christ from the dead, and which he now manifests in the new life which the Christian receives from the risen Christ and shares with him.”<sup>1</sup>

**Three Relevant Biblical Journeys**

- 1) A literal journey from Egypt to Sinai - We Have Seen God's power yet we Grumble
  - 1) We grumble because we gave something up
    - 1) Exodus 16:1-3
    - 2) We grumble because we find ourselves in a place of need
      - 1) Exodus 17:1
  - 2) A chronological journey from Passover to Pentecost - We have seen God's power yet we don't understand
    - 1) We have Scripture but we still need Spiritual insight
      - 1) Luke 24:44-53
      - 2) We have Jesus' teachings but we still don't understand God's timing (among other things)
        - 1) Acts 1:3-8

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<sup>1</sup> F.W. Beare, 1959

- 3) An experiential journey from Salvation to Glorification - We have seen God's power and are bearing witness
  - 1) We refuse to be content with less than the life that Jesus' resurrection offers
    - 1) Phil 3: 13
    - 2) We are content to challenge and to be challenged on this journey we share with others
      - 1) Phil 3: 14-15
      - 2) "Perfect" = Spiritually Mature, well trained, qualified, up to this standard, initiated into Christ's teaching,

### **What Journey are you on?**

A better way to ask this question might be,

*"How are you responding to God's life-giving power in your life?"*

- 1) Are you prone to grumble about your present problems despite experiencing God's activity in your life?
- 2) Are you puzzled by your current situation despite observing God's faithfulness in your life?
- 3) Are you continuously bearing witness to what God has done and is doing in your life?
- 4) Are you and challenging, and being challenged by, others to bear this witness?