

“Bring Us to Life”

Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; John 20: 1-18; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

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While my husband Dan was recently away on military duty, I was stuck with his car rather than my beloved minivan. More than once, while he was gone I committed to hauling the neighborhood kids to a movie or ball game only to remember that I couldn't fit all of them in the car.

Dan's car has a number of idiosyncrasies. The gas gauge doesn't work so you have keep track of miles traveled after each fill up. The heating and air conditioning only works on one speed—full blast. You can be cooked or frozen, but nothing in between. The tape deck doesn't work. And then there's the radio. Sometimes it just goes crazy, going from one station to the next with no way of stopping it.

So during the weeks he was away, we tried to never touch the search mode on the radio, which meant we were stuck with one station. For a while, we listened to the Dixie Chicks' "Landslide" over and over again. Then, when the song or the group fell out of favor, a new song became the most-played and perhaps the most-requested. The song is by the group Evanescence and it is called "Bring Me to Life."

The first time I heard the song, it got my attention. Cool music, with almost haunting lyrics. It is a song that expresses how many people feel today—a song that expresses how I suppose everyone has felt at one time or another. It expresses the longing of us all to have someone or some thing to save us and to bring us to life.

I assume the song is written with a lover in mind. I assume it's about the hope that another person can save us and bring us to life. It's about the hope that another person can keep us from coming undone. Here are some of the lyrics"

Song by Evanescence "Bring Me to Life"

"Wake me up inside, wake me up inside,
Call my name and save me from the dark
Bid my blood to run before I come undone
Save me from the nothing I've become

Now that I know what I'm without
You can't just leave me
Breathe into me and make me real
Bring me to life.

Mary Magdalene. Came to the tomb. Death was all around her. The darkness was overwhelming. The grief was about to undo her. She felt the nothingness of her life without Jesus.

Jesus called Mary Magdalene by name.

Mary Magdalene (see Luke 8:2, Mark 16:9) seven demons had gone out of her.

The apostle Paul looked at himself and at first glance said, "I'm a nobody." I am the least of the apostles because I used to kill Christians and persecute the church before I was brought to life by Christ. Christ Jesus saved me from the nothing I had become. Only through the breath of Christ had he been made real. "By the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain."

What makes us real? Recall the Velveteen Rabbit. We become real by being loved.