

MEDITATION 9

GOD IS BEYOND IN THE MIDST OF OUR life, says Bonhoeffer. The monk manages to live this beyond-amid with special gracefulness and beauty. Beauty emerges only when life has achieved radical beyondness while fully amid, or intense amidness by means of beyond.

Oddly, the monk withdraws into the heart of culture and life, into the fullness of community. He withdraws in order to be more involved.

We average persons may need daily withdrawal in order to be more fully participants in community, family, and society. Pull up the cowl, eat in silence, read to be absorbed, pray without intent, chant.