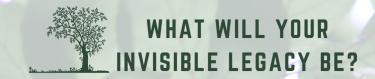


WHAT WILL YOUR INVISIBLE LEGACY BE?

Where have you given of yourself in a gracious, yet hidden way? When did you donate to an urgent cause, yet spoke of it to no one? How have you put in a good word that led to a hire, a promotion, uplift of another person, who themselves became a significant leader? Who came to you for advice, and you listened until they found the wisdom of their own heart? What small (or large) sacrifice of position or power or influence did you make, so a greater cause might be born? Where are entire ecologies flourishing today from tiny mustard seeds you quietly planted long ago? When has your left hand barely known what good your right hand was doing? How will you invest in a future that is presently just a vision without centering your own need to take credit? Who do you believe in and how will you support them? What will your invisible legacy be?

A LESSON PLAN



<u>Lesson Aim:</u> To invite participants to think about their invisible legacies past and present, connect them to the values and teachings of Jesus, and embrace the spiritual work of encouragement, support, and meaningful contribution.

<u>Materials</u>: Copies of "Invisible Legacy" by Eileen Campbell-Reed, access to scripture texts (Matt. 6:1-6, Mark 4:30-32), writing utensils and paper or individual journals.

- 1) Gather your group safely online or in person for a conversation.
- 2) Start by reading from Matthew 6:1-6 from The Message.
- 3) Invite group into a time of centering/contemplative prayer.
- 4) Ask: Have you ever considered your "invisible legacies" past, present, or future? Today we are going to think about them individually and collectively, journaling, and sharing in small groups to encourage one another.
- 5) Read: "Invisible Legacy" aloud, taking turns.
- 6) Invite participants to choose one question and journal their response to it for five minutes, providing paper and writing utensils if needed.
- 7) Divide the group into small sub-groups of 2 to 3 people and ask them to share their thoughts about invisible legacies including personal experience as they are willing.
- 8) Read Mark 4:30-32 as *lectio divina* by reading it three times with full resting silence after each reading. Ask people to notice and hold a word or phrase that stands out to them in the reading.
- 9) Start a conversation by welcoming each person to share, as willing, the word or phrase they embraced. Ask: what does this mean for our shared life together? What spiritual work of encouragement, support, and meaningful contribution is ours collectively and individually?
- 10) End with one final time of journaling so participants might commit themselves to their shared and individual legacies. Close with a spoken prayer of gratitude and commitment.

