



Week 2 | January | Stillness of Winter

Deep in the truth of all of us lies the rough draft that demands edit after edit... a chance to come back to that sacred moment when we stand at the crest of the hill, cast arms wide, salute the heavens, shake off dirt and dust, remap our route, and see if this time round we might inch higher toward the summit.

- Read 1 Peter 1:13-25
- Read 1 Corinthians 13:8-13
- Read Stillness of Winter, pp 92-113

A fresh start brings such promise, with God often described as the God of second chances. He is also the God of *another* chance, for we can easily mess up the second chance fairly quickly! In addition, Love, the core attribute of God, enters the new year with its permanence, completeness, and absolute supremacy. Happy New Year, indeed!

Discussion/journal prompts –

1. How might you look at the new year as a newborn baby? What word comes to mind to describe the year ahead?
2. What petitions (imagine... be...) might you bring to this new year?
3. How does it sound to “usher in the new year with a day of quietude, sunrise to sundown”? Have you ever tried that? What do you think you might experience?
4. During the winter months, we stock up. How are you stocking up to build your resiliency?
5. Do you do anything special to recognize Epiphany on January 6 (i.e., wait till then to add the wise men to your nativity set)?
6. When you’re not sure what step to take next, what (or who) helps you decide?
7. As you think about 2021, what is the next right and loving thing for you to do?

Before next week, read *Stillness of Winter* pp 114-172.