



Week 3 | January | Stillness of Winter

I find God whenever I'm alone. Or maybe that's the time when, at last, I feel the rustling by my side, at my elbow, where my heart goes thump. Maybe that's when at last it's quiet enough, still enough, for me to hear the Holy Whispers.

- Read Mark 16:1-8
- Read Romans 12:1, 9-21
- Read Stillness of Winter, pp 114-127
(*Inviting the Sacred to I Too Have a Dream*)

Sometimes we must search for the sacred in our every day. Sometimes it finds us. We are to watch, regard, take in the world. Consider its state and the way in which it could be. Catch a vision for what is possible, then rise up to

chase it. This takes the ability to dream of a world where love is being lived out, where we each do all we can to live in peace with everyone, every day. Let's make the dream a reality!

Discussion/journal prompts –

1. Do you see the sacred in your everyday moments? How could you take notice of the Holy Whispers you encounter each day?
2. Women were a part of Jesus' ministry. When Jesus was crucified, the women thought all was lost, including the vision of a better world. How do you think they felt upon being told, "Jesus has risen!"
3. If you were to make a "vision board," a visual representation of your dreams and desires, what would be on it?
4. When have you risen up to face fear? What, or who helped you do that?
5. Which of the imperatives listed in Romans 12:9-21 seem most doable to you? Which are most difficult?
6. Can you think of some practical, everyday examples of living out faith? What actions do you notice in others that you hope to emulate?
7. Our church seeks to close the spiritual gap, justice/kindness gap, generational gap and opportunity gap. How might you be part of that process? (www.cor.org/leawood/vision-2030)

Before next week, read *Stillness of Winter* pp 129-156 (Blessed Be January and Recipes).