

Our Lenten Retreat - Week Two

This week our work will be rooted in the Latin term *invocabit*. This word can be understood as “S/he will call.” The “s/he” points toward the God of our understanding. What is very good about this Latin word is the unequivocal way in which it announces a reality for us, and it is a reality that, if we can live in it, allows us to believe and know that personal universe that Rohr spoke of, “where the divine image shines through all created things.” In that world, our call is waiting for us all around

Last week, to explore what needed forgiving, we entered into the archetypal energy of the hermit. The hermit is about illumination from within. This is divine inspiration, sage knowledge, a break from the crowdedness of life, and a deep contemplation. This week we will enter into the archetypal energy of the hermit emerging.

After her time away, the hermit’s mind is quiet, her vision is clear, and she’s hyper aware of all that is happening around her. He is ripe to recognize the call that awaits him. The hermit emerging knows the call is there because of time spent resting with *invocabit* and now is determined to find it. You are the Hermit emerging from your practice of forgiveness from last week, and you are ready to see.

Things to notice:

(from Chris Michaels’ work with my additions)

- A dream that keeps coming back, or what it is that pursues you in dreams;
- A symptom that recurs and is exquisitely metaphoric, such as a pain in the neck from shouldering too much responsibility;
- A conversation you overhear in a restaurant that seems as though it was spoken directly to you;
- Places in your life where there’s friction. As in nature, friction occurs where changes are taking place or trying to;
- Song lyrics you can’t get out of your head;
- Instructions that arise unbidden from the silence of meditation;
- What you would preach about if given an hour of “prime time;”
- What are you most curious about? If you follow that curiosity, where might it lead?
- Have a few different people suggested the same book, movie, or new shop? Repeated suggestions from different places are often clues.

Your work this week is not to take action. This week it is about making record of where you see the call, how you receive it, and what it is. Use the same techniques as last week - journal, contemplate, make art, collect bits of nature that symbolize for you your experience of this call. What is it that you see? What message have you received from spirit? What can you feel resonating with you that says, "I am yours to do."?

This week's prayer:

God as the all in all, saturating this enchanted world in which we live, I rest in the knowing that you are already calling me to something bigger than myself. I know you have been calling all the days of my life, "Where art thou?" In this moment I respond, "Here I am. Send me." I pray that my mind be open, my vision cleared, and my heart ripe enough to bring to fruition that which I am meant to do for this world by learning how best to be the person I was born to be. May my senses be open to what is beyond my self. For every way I receive this call, may I heed it. "Here I am. Send me."

And so it is.

Amen.