

Awakening to a New Consciousness

*Listening to the Cry of Earth
and the Cry of the Poor*

Mercy's Theological Reflection Process



Session Two | Participant's Guide

October 2021

PREPARATION FOR THIS SESSION

Using the *Call to a New Consciousness: Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor* webpage, please complete the following materials before the second session:

- [read] Overview: Seeing—Deep Listening ([click here](#))
- [view] *In Defence of Life* (33 min.) ([click here](#))
- [read] Theological Lenses
 - Mercy Lens ([click here](#))
 - Ecofeminism Lens ([click here](#))
 - Laudato Si' Lens ([click here](#))
 - Ecoliberation Lens ([click here](#))

If, after watching *In Defence of Life*, you would like to hear more stories, [click here](#) to read and listen to additional suggested stories.

When you are watching *In Defence of Life* (or other videos), please write down words, images, questions or facts that stirred in you as you were watching. Pay attention to your feelings, to your body language—where are you feeling the discomfort and the tension from the video in your own body and breathing.

SESSION TWO: PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

In answering the challenges of our times, we begin by listening deeply to the experiences of those exploited and most impacted by extractivism and to our own experiences.

As we enter into listening with the heart, we will gather together as a large group, and then you will enter into a small group for:

- *Introductions of any new participants and check-in: in one sentence, what has stayed with you from the last session?*
- *Deep listening to videos on the impacts of extractivism*
- *Journaling and sharing what you have experienced*

Please bring your journal to each session, so you can record your feelings, thoughts and learnings.

If you are a poet or artist, we encourage you to creatively respond to the questions or conversation.

Please send any insights from this session to share to extractivism@sistersofmercy.org. Also, feel free to send poems, artwork or other forms of creative expression as well as written reflections.

PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT SESSION

Review the following resources before session three:

- [read] Overview: Judging—Deep Reflection ([click here](#))
- [read] Mercy Lens: A View toward Harmony and Right Relationship in Our Suffering World ([click here](#))
- [read] Review all of the following lenses: An Ecofeminism Lens ([click here](#)), an Ecoliberation Lens ([click here](#)) and Laudato Si' Lens ([click here](#)).
 - Pick one that you would like to explore further and use in the next session. Consider which will offer you a new perspective on your current theological viewpoint, not just the one with which you are most comfortable. Then, answer the questions incorporated into the lens that you have chosen. After an initial answer, revisit your answer right before the session three meeting.
 - Listen to where concepts and language from the two lenses you did not pick have raised something in you. Reflect on those and write or creatively express your reaction to them in your journal to share with your group or revisit after the conversation.