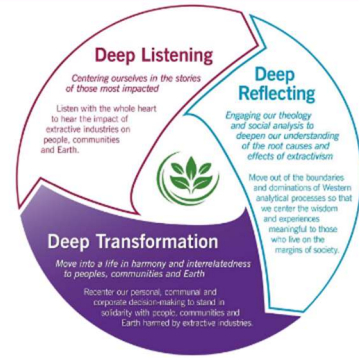

Awakening to a New Consciousness

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

Mercy's Theological Reflection Process



Session Five — Participant Reflection Worksheet

Instructions:

After reviewing the preparatory materials and your reflections from previous sessions, set time aside to answer these questions from a prayerful place. First, read each question, then take several moments of silent contemplation before responding.

After your initial responses, take the time to review them with specific consideration of the Mercy Lens and the focus of this Theological Reflection Process to center decision making in the experience of people, community, and Earth. Mercy has expressed a commitment to prioritize decision-making in BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) Communities and Earth. Consider how your responses reflect that prioritization.

Deep Transformation – Move Into A Life In Harmony And Interrelatedness To Peoples, Communities And Earth

In our conversations, we have listened to, read about, and seen video accounts of the life experiences of people and Earth who have been negatively affected by extractivism.

We have analyzed and interpreted what we saw and heard. We applied various lenses, different perspectives to help us make meaning of those horrendous accounts. We have explored some of the difficulties wrought by the lens of the traditional Western theologies that have so long supported domination, subjugation, oppression and devastation through economic, political, cultural, religious and social means.

Our conversation has animated us to respond to and center our response in the cries of those made poor and the cries of Earth. The devastation of extractivism is unquestionable, yet the issue is complex. We know we may be complicit in the extractive development model by consumption of the products made with extractive industries byproducts as well as through our investment in extractive companies.

Now we are called to respond in a way that continues to center the voices of the people, communities, and Earth most impacted by extractives that have transformed our understanding?

- What might we see differently and understand differently now?
 - How do we ensure that we continue to move forward centered in the voices of people most impacted by extractives over stories corporations, consumerism and those who have traditionally held power?
 - How do we engage with each other?
 - How can we use our individual, communal and corporate voices to awaken our world to what we have learned?
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1.)What do I see and understand differently now than when I began the Theological Reflection process?

2.)In what ways am I thinking of the Critical Concerns differently, now that I have explored their intersectionality.

3.)What questions must we continue to ask- of ourselves as individuals, of Mercy as a community and of Mercy as a corporate voice? Consider each element of this question.

4.)What do we want to prioritize in our decision-making regarding extractives?

5.)In what ways does Mercy concretely show the prioritization of the BIPOC communities in our decision making, specifically regarding extractives?

6.)As we conclude our theological process on extractivism and move toward our next conversations and pre-Chapter processes, what further conversations do we want to have?