

THE WORLD WITHIN

This Present Paradise: Part 4

Group Questions

1. What struck you from this week's episode?
2. Have you ever had an experience like Heather visiting the Nashville Dominicans or Michelle at the Visitation Monastery in Mobile? How would you describe the presence of God in these 'thin places'?
3. How have you seen love mature in relationships with your spouse, family or friends? How have you experienced love maturing in your relationship with God?
4. This Lent, what is one practice or habit God is calling you to use as an anchor to help you grow in intimacy with Him in the cloister of your soul, so love can flow from that relationship? How have you seen this at work so far this Lent?

Lectio Divina

"Jesus said to him, 'Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.'" - John 20:29

Journal Questions

1. Take a moment to imagine the 'secret garden', a place for God within you? What does it look like, smell like, and sound like? What flowers, trees, animals or structures fill the space? What is this place for Jesus to meet you intimately?
2. What has been your experience of intimacy with Jesus?
3. Take a moment to pray the prayer from Cardinal Newman. What does the Lord want to say to you through this?

Quote to Ponder

"The more precious the love, the more precautions to guard it. The grating in a Carmelite monastery is not to keep the sisters in, but to keep the world out."
- Archbishop Fulton Sheen