

Sacred Ground: A Film and Dialogue Series on Race and Faith

St. John the Evangelist, Hingham MA

Session 4 - The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Slavery

Critical Questions for Reflection

- 1. What, if anything, did you learn about the transatlantic slave trade, slavery and the civil war as a child or in school?
- 2. What do you expect your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or young students have learned about the transatlantic slave trade, slavery and the civil war in school? In your family? How would you ask them what they have learned?
- 3. What do you feel are the legacies of slavery in American society? In your family?
- 4. What did you learn, unlearn or re-learn after watching the PBS video for this session?
- 5. In chapter two, Howard Thurman recalls his grandmother's recount of a slave minister who held secret religious meetings with fellow slaves and ended each meeting with: "You- you are. Not niggers. You you are not slaves. You are God's children." (p41) But he also shares how difficult it is to remember that Blessing when everything in your context treats you as a slave. How does faith help you grapple and reconcile your place in this history, your story, the imprint on you?