

Exile and Redemption

Discuss the following questions in your group. Have one person take notes in order to report your responses to the class later.

1.	How is Sr. Helen Prejean a prophet? Is her message well received?
2.	What should be the consequences of evil choices like murder? Is the death penalty just?
3.	Can someone be forgiven if he or she does not accept responsibility for his or her decisions and actions?
4.	If the Israelites had not gone into exile, or if murderers are not imprisoned, do you think they could still have the same motivation to change? In what way were the Israelites like beggars asking for redemption? How about those who commit murder?
5.	How did knowing that God is merciful help the Israelites during their exile? How would that knowledge help death row prisoners? How does it help us in our everyday lives? If we are in need of such mercy from God, why is it so difficult for us to forgive others?