Rock! Paper! Scissor! Issue 8— Retelling Ourselves: New Narratives for Liberating Our Past, Present and Future

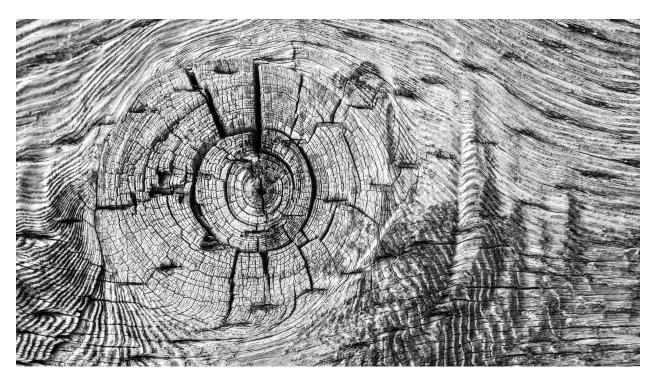


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For many of us who are seeking truth about ourselves, ourselves community and our relationships, it is not for the faint of heart to break away from imperial narratives and discover different histories and storytellings. Oftentimes, we face grief and disbelief when uncovering stories about ourselves, family, and community that have been hidden from us. So how do we know what's real? Is it possible to reclaim our stories and legacies? Do we dare take on the call of breaking generational family and community cycles of infliction and internalized oppression?

The process of weaving our past, present, and future will be no small feat. It requires reexamining the stories we tell ourselves on autopilot about how we came to be, our place in society, and our lineages. It also involves asking ourselves what movement and community legacies need to be remembered and uncovered for truth-telling and liberation. We come to this issue to explore this question: "What would it look like for us to not have empire and oppression shaping our present and future, robbing us of kinship and continuity of our history and legacy?"

- Is it possible as radical people of faith to break the legacy of imperial religion?
- How can we get to know ourselves, our families and communities, and society in a way that is not marred by the trauma-inducing imperialist gaze?
- Is a different view of understanding narrative and history possible under these conditions?
- How can movement building be a means of creating and initiating intergenerational healing with our own lives and our kindred?

- What is possible for our movements if ancestral healing work is incorporated into our community organizing?
- What kind of social and spiritual formation we are all called to create and partake in if we desire to forge a shalom-based kindred?
- How can we transform the relational and cultural trauma patterns that come from both our colonized and colonizer lineages and cultures?

As difficult as these questions are, reclaiming our sense of narrative, kindred, and legacy is a must for us to be in co-creation of an intentional present and future filled with shalom. We are asking for submissions from folks who have insights, stories, and wisdom on the work of uncovering buried narratives and histories as well as forging new forms of kindred and legacies. We are looking examples of practice and struggle of liberating and mending our narratives, relations and legacies in all aspects of life on personal, community, and collective levels.

Submission Guidelines: Word length is flexible, but brevity is prized. Maximum length is approximately 2,000 words. Conversational or academic writing styles are both acceptable, but keep in mind a popular audience. We seek intersectional, liberative, and self-reflective pieces. We also accept photos, drawings, sermons, songs, videos, poems, interviews, how-tos and anything else you can think of. Please fact-check and proofread your work. You retain full copyright control of your work. Content is due by (enter date) to submissions [dot] jesusradicals [at] gmail [dot] com. Please include a short biography, photo, and possible accompanying image. Visit our website to view the full guidelines and our previous issues at: jesusradicals.com/submission-guidelines.html. Deadline for submissions is June, 1 2022.