

*Journal Questions: Tattoos on the Heart*

- 1) What stands out to you from the story? Are there images or developments in the story that surprise, move, or challenge you?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) “*Heule a rosas.*” It is a miracle indeed when dirty feet can come to us as the smell of roses. When it came to teaching about the Kingdom of God, Jesus often said, “Those who have eyes to see, let them see. Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.” This story brings in another sense: “Those who have noses to smell, let them smell.”
  - What was it that allowed the church in this story to take this deeper perspective on the reality of their situation? What happened when they were able to do so?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - Have you ever had an experience like this where you embraced an opportunity to see, feel, and experience a deeper “Kingdom” perspective on reality? What happened when you were able to do so?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - What do you think helps or hinders you from taking the deeper “Kingdom” perspective?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) “They’re ripping the roof off the place, and those outside are being let in.” Can you connect with the way the author portrays miracles and healing as dismantling the barriers that exclude others from full participation in community? Have you ever witnessed or experienced a ‘miracle’ through kinship with those on the margins?

- 4) Are you being called to act on your faith in standing with someone who is being excluded? What are the obstacles that stand between them and full participation in community?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 5) As you finish your reflection, write your desires and prayer to God/Jesus and listen to God's response to you.