



## The unique character of the mask of anger

- Anger is often \_\_\_\_\_.
- Of the seven deadly sins, anger has, in many ways, become too socially acceptable.
- The mask of anger encourages \_\_\_\_\_ behavior.

*You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.* James 1:19-21 (NRSV)

## The role of anger in interpersonal relations

- \_\_\_\_\_ stifles unnecessary anger.
  - Anger clouds our ability to see the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Anger removes the potential for \_\_\_\_\_ change.

## I propose an alternative

What if we channeled our energy by naming our places of hurt instead of weaponizing them?

*But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." Jacob said, "No, please; if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand; for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God—since you have received me with such favor."* Genesis 33:9-10 (NRSV)

- \_\_\_\_\_ derails the anger cycle.
- Loving those who have \_\_\_\_\_ us is part of the difficult work of living the Gospel.

## **What do we make of Jesus' own anger?**

*My house shall be called a house of prayer; but you are making it a den of robbers.* Matthew 21:13b (NRSV)

- Anger can be a \_\_\_\_\_ catalyst for change when it belongs to God first.
- Jesus' anger is not about getting even, but is driven by a failing system.
- The Church loses its Christ-centered identity when it buys into the façade that it is “doing fine.”
  - The crucial problem with the mask of anger is that it leaves no space for \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Rather than wrathful anger, loving reaction**

- End rage and adopt a well-tempered passion toward society's injustices.
- Depart from the syndrome of the \_\_\_\_\_ Church.
- Let God \_\_\_\_\_ our anger before it takes hold of us in poor ways.