
STEWARDSHIP AND VULNERABILITY

A BRIEF PRESENTATION

NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY

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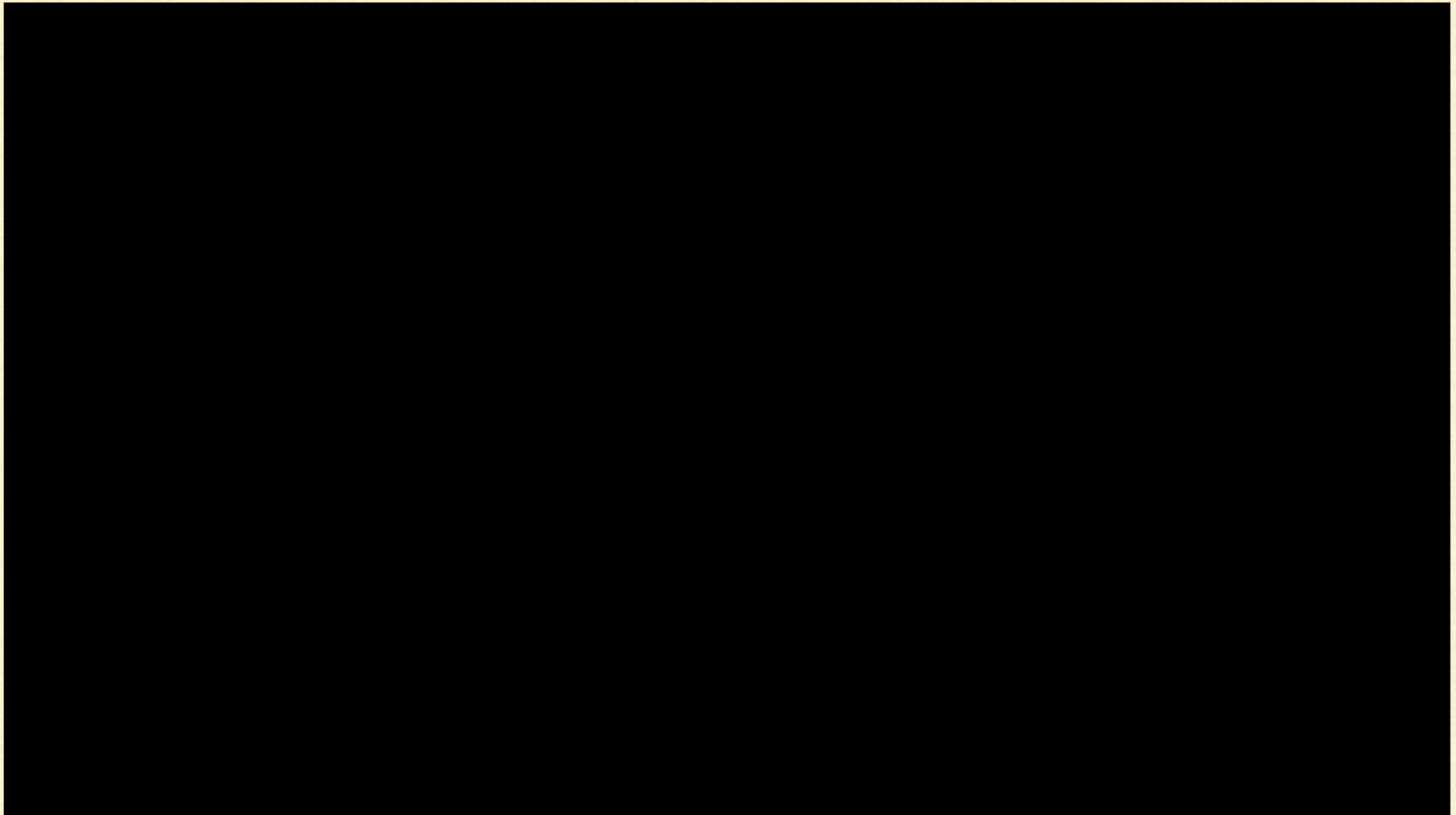
I want to start a global conversation
about vulnerability, shame and
courage.

Brené Brown

VULNERABILITY

- Comes from the Latin word “to wound”
 - To be vulnerable is to be open to being wounded
 - Risking failure
 - Speaking truthfully
 - Staying in (rather than remaining on the sidelines)
 - Allowing for discomfort
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Being Vulnerable



WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

What does vulnerability mean to you?

How do you experience vulnerability?

When have you experienced someone else being vulnerable with you?

How might this inform your pastoral practice?

SHAME

Shame is what keeps us from being vulnerable. It is the intensely painful feeling or experience of believing that you are flawed and therefore unworthy of love and belonging. It is universal.

- We all have the gremlins
 - Shame is: "I have failed" vs. "I am a failure."
 - What price do we pay, emotionally and spiritually, when we disengage and do not enter the arena?
 - Shame undermines every path to joy, freedom and peace. It keeps us from daring greatly.
 - The more we talk about shame the less power it has over our lives.
 - Cultivating a shame resilient culture in our congregations.
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Courage is the answer to shame

Courage = Daring greatly

Courage = Being all in

QUESTION FOR YOU

What would stewardship in your congregation look like if it were based on the principles of vulnerability and courage?

What might change?

FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP LETTER

We know for many people money is a difficult subject, fraught with complex emotions including confusion, shame and secrecy. These emotions often emerge when money is talked about in church. Yet we all know that maintaining the ministry of Saint Mark is important to us, because it's God's work. Each of us desires to give generously and from a grateful heart. We believe this is the true purpose of stewardship: the experience of God's grace that leads to gratitude and brings forth generosity from a glad heart!

MONEY AND YOUR CONGREGATION

- What is your congregation's relationship with money?
- Is it ok to talk about money in a candid way?
- Name significant financial events in the life of your congregation.
 - Are they talked about? If so, how?
- Would your congregation do a money autobiography?
- What brings your members joy around money?

RESOURCES

- *Daring Greatly* - Brené Brown - 2012 - Gotham Books
- *Rising Strong* - Brené Brown - 2015 - Spiegel & Grau Publishers
- *Braving the Wilderness* - Brené Brown - 2017 - Random House
- *The Vulnerable Pastor* - Mandy Smith - 2015 - IVP Press
- *Narratives of a Vulnerable God* - William Placher - 1994 - WJK Press
- Faith and Money Network: faithandmoneynetwork.org
- Roy Howard: pastor@saintmarkpresby.org
- Shelby Etheridge: associate@saintmarkpresby.org

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