**Questions to Reflect**

“Invictus”

In 1990, Nelson Mandela was released from 27 years as a political prisoner for resisting apartheid. A new era begins for South Africa with Mandela as President in 1995.

The Theme of the film is how President Mandela rejects revenge, forgives his oppressors and finds hope of national unity by encouraging the countries rugby team to win the world cup for 1995.

1. **How do these strong powerful speaking lines support this theme?**
   * Reconciliation starts here. Forgiveness removes fear. That is why it’s such a powerful weapon.
   * How do we inspire ourselves to greatness when nothing less will do? How do we inspire everyone around us to exceed our own expectations?
   * Times change and we need to change as well. If I cannot change when circumstances demand, how can I expect others to change?
   * This little Victorian poem helped me to stand when I wanted to lie down.

*The last two lines of poem “Invictus” by William Henley are most quoted:*

*“I am the master of my fate;*

*“I am the guardian of my soul.”*

1. **How does this film relate to the focus of this session: imaging a better world?**

**“Invictus”**

By: Earnest Henley

Out of the night that covers me,

Black as the pit from pole to pole,

I thank whatever gods may be

For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance

I have not winced nor cried aloud.

Under the bludgeonings of chance

My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears

Looms but the Horror of the shade,

And yet the menace of the years

Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,

How charged with punishments the scroll.

I am the master of my fate:

I am the captain of my soul.