



**LEADING LECTIO DIVINA**

As we do our readings and responses, we'll be entering a time of silent prayer and reflection rather than talking with each other.

For our first reading, our focus point is to listen for one word or phrase from the text that the Holy Spirit impresses on you. Then we'll each meditate quietly on that...

*Quiet Reflection Question:* What is one word or phrase that you're drawn to?

*Group Leader Tip:* You may want to ask if a group member wants to read the passage out loud.

*Group Leader Tip:* Allow 2-5 minutes of silent prayer.

If you haven't received a word yet, it's okay. Keep listening as it may come later.

*Sharing Question:*

- If you have received a word or phrase you can share that with the group now by speaking it out loud as a prayer - with no explanation or commentary. This way, we can feed off the fruit of each other's meditations.

For our second reading, our focus point is to enter into the Scripture passage.

*Quiet Reflection Questions:*

- What do you feel?
- What are your emotions?
- What specific situation in your life today relates?

In the quiet reflection, you can journal a prayer or pray silently.

*Group Leader Tip:* You may want to ask a second group member of the other gender to read the text.

*Group Leader Tip:* Allow 3-10 minutes of silent prayer.

Often in our small groups we pray for each other, but I want to invite you to pray for yourself. This would be a blessing for the rest of us in the group to join in agreement with your prayer.

*Sharing Question:*

- What feelings or life situation would you like to offer in prayer out loud?

*Group Leader Tip:* The first personal share in the group sets the tone. It may help the group for you to share first to model:

- Vulnerability
- Use of a personal examples
- Sharing how God is being experienced
- Being brief

Let's do our last reading.

*Quiet Reflection Question:*

- What is God's personal invitation to you from the Bible passage?

You can journal what God may say to you or offer a prayer of thanks for what God is showing you.

To hear God, you need to turn off the critic or cynic in your mind that questions whether you're really hearing God. When God speaks, it's usually in thoughts and feelings that come into your mind. Later, you can check what you discerned to see if it's consistent with God's inspired words in the Bible...

*Group Leader Tip:* You may want to pick a third member of the group to read the passage out loud.

*Group Leader Tip:* Allow 3-10 minutes of silent prayer. Then close the prayer time, "In Jesus' name we pray. Amen." Allow a quiet pause before talking to the group.

*Sharing Questions:*

- If you've received a personal invitation from the Lord it'd be a blessing if you share that. This helps you hold onto what you've received from God and it helps others to feed off the fruit of your meditation.