

Lectio Divina Format for Discussing Sunday Readings

1. The Call to Prayer

Leader: My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

2. The Word of God

Leader: May the Lord be in our hearts as we listen to a reading from next Sunday's Gospel.

Leader or someone else reads the Gospel for the first time:

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

(Mark 1:40-45)

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said,
"If you wish, you can make me clean."
Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand,
touched him, and said to him,
"I do will it. Be made clean."
The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean.
Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything,
but go, show yourself to the priest
and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed;
that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter.
He spread the report abroad
so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly.
He remained outside in deserted places,
and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

The Gospel of the Lord

Leader asks the group the following question and then allows time for people to share.

3. First Question - What word or phrase sticks out to you?

After people have shared, the Gospel is read again and the 2nd question is asked and people share.

4. Second Question - What does that word or phrase mean to you?

After people have shared, the Gospel is read for the last time and the 3rd question is asked and people share.

5. Third and Final Question - What comforts or challenges you about the word or phrase you chose?

At the conclusion of the sharing, the leader invites the group to pray (see below).

6. The Prayer

Invite everyone to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn