

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 Luke

(Luke 12:13-21)

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus,
"Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me."
He replied to him,
"Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?"
Then he said to the crowd,
"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich,
one's life does not consist of possessions."

Then he told them a parable.
"There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest.
He asked himself, 'What shall I do,
for I do not have space to store my harvest?'
And he said, 'This is what I shall do:
I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones.
There I shall store all my grain and other goods
and I shall say to myself, 'Now as for you,
you have so many good things stored up for many years,
rest, eat, drink, be merry!''"
But God said to him,
'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you;
and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?'
Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves
but are not rich in what matters to God."

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