

Miracles of Jesus - Lectio Divina

Theme

This semester in Bible study we will focus on the Miracles of Jesus in the book of Acts. Over the summer Destino students read through the book and selected which miracles we will be covering. We pray that God would bring the healing to each one of us that He brought to people long ago.

Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina, Latin for *divine reading*, is an ancient Catholic practice of prayer and scripture reading whose goal is to promote meeting with God. The introduction to a devotional book *Solo* says, "Lectio divina is more Bible basking than Bible study, as it teaches you to absorb and meditate on Scripture, to converse with God openly, and to live out what has become a part of you -- His Word."

Our desire is not that you would learn more information just for information's sake. We want this to be a process where you interact with God's word *en familia*, in community, that you take it inside you, dwell on it, and that as you listen and respond to God's Spirit that it would change you and those around you.

Elements of Lectio Divina

Our Bible Study follows the traditional structure of Lectio Divina (Read, Think, Pray, Live) and modifies it in a few key ways. Lectio Divina traditionally has been followed in individual reading of God's word, but can also be done in a group. For us we want this to be a communal experience where we follow God *en familia*, together and not separate.

In addition to being *communal*, we want our study to be part of a *movement*. That means that as we are changed by God and His Word that we would be sent to help others experience what we have experienced. God and His Word are not just for us as individuals, they are to be shared with our community and even with those outside our community. As a result we have added a fifth element to our study, "Tell".

Ground Rules

We encourage everyone to participate in the Bible study together. However, if someone is uncomfortable or desires not to participate, they can simply "pass" when it comes to their turn. Members will get far more out of the study if they are a part of it, but we don't require anyone to speak if they don't want to.

How to Do Lectio Divina *en Familia*

READ (First Reading)

Read through the passage twice. Each group member is to listen for a word, phrase, or idea that captures their attention. As you settle on one word or phrase, repeat it in your mind, meditating on it.

After reading the passage two times and pausing for a moment, go around the group and have each member share the word or phrase that stuck out to them (and nothing else at this point, we'll have more time later to expand on why it stuck out).

LISTEN (Second Reading)

Ask the group to "listen to how God is speaking through this passage to your life at this time." Read through the passage again. Pause for a moment and then ask the group members to share in one or two sentences why the word or phrase stuck out to them. What does it mean for them today? What might God be trying to say to them through the word or phrase?

LIVE (Third Reading)

Read the passage a third time. This time have the members focus on what God is calling them to do or who He is calling them to be as a result of the word or phrase. Go around the group and have each member share.

TELL (Fourth Reading)

Read the section for the last time. After pausing for a moment, have each member share one person they can tell this week based on how they feel like God has been speaking to them.

Helpful Hints:

- As a leader your responsibility is to help guide people to listen to God. The pressure is off of you because you don't need to have all the answers. You are simply leading your group through a time to hear what God is saying to them and then helping them live out who He has called them to be. God's Spirit does all the work. You help provide a loving *familia* within which He will move.
- Try reading each time in a different translation of the Bible. Hearing God's Word through different translations may spark something unique He wants to do in our hearts.
- Encourage everyone to participate but don't force anyone to share if they don't want to.

Lectio Divina en Familia

What Scripture passage was the focus for today?

Read

What word or phrase stood out to you from today's reading?

Listen

What does the word or phrase mean to you today? What might God be trying to say to you through His Word?

Live

What is God calling you to do or who is He calling you to be as a result of how He is speaking to you?

Tell

Who is God calling you to tell based on what He has been saying to you today?

Lectio Divina en Familia

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Who is God calling you to tell based on what He has been saying to you today?

Mark Bible Study Schedule

	Passage
Week 1	Mark 1:1-11
Week 2	Mark 4:35-41
Week 3	Mark 8:1-10
Week 4	Mark 9:14-27
Week 5	Mark 10:46-52
Week 6	Mark 11:12-14,20-25
Week 7	Mark 15:25-39
Week 8	Mark 16:14-20