

Lectio Divina

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- Opening prayer to Holy Spirit to be open to the word of God; moment of stillness and gratitude
 - LECTIO – what God is saying: the slow, deliberate reading of the passage of scripture – we used the Gospel from the forthcoming Sunday. Read the passage again, perhaps with variety of voices
 - MEDITATIO – what God is saying to me: reflection on the reading, the group are invited to share ‘echoes’ from the text, a phrase that strikes them (and why, if you wish). This is not a discussion, no feedback, let the comment ‘echo’ in your heart
 - ORATIO – what I would like to say to God: spontaneous prayers of intercession, ending, Lord in your mercy....hear our prayer
 - CONTEMPLATIO – a period of silence in which we ‘rest in God’ and let the Holy Spirit deepen our awareness of the word
 - Our Father said in common, final invocation of the saint of the day, or patron saint
 - (ACTIO) – this is more common when praying Lectio on your own that you conclude with an ‘action’ in order to grow in virtue.

John's Gospel: 15: 9-17

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments
you will remain in my love,
just as I have kept my Father's commandments
and remain in his love.

I have told you this
so that my own joy may be in you
and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment:
love one another, as I have loved you.

A man can have no greater love
than to lay down his life for his friends.

You are my friends,
if you do what I command you.

I shall not call you servants any more,
because a servant does not know
his master's business;
I call you friends,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
You did not choose me:
no, I chose you;
and I commissioned you
to go out and to bear fruit,
fruit that will last;
and then the Father will give you
anything you ask him in my name.
What I command you
is to love one another.'

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