

LIFEGROUP

FAITH STUDY

WARMING UP

Have you ever come across someone famous in an everyday setting? What did you do? Did you go up to them to ask for their autograph/take a selfie? If no, why didn't you go up to them?

READ MARK 2:1-12 — LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio Divina stands for "Divine reading" and is a practiced Christian tradition from early Church history times. It requires engaging with God's holy word through reading and hearing the passage simply at face value. Refrain from thinking too deeply or interpreting the passage at this point: that will come later—but simply accept the words you hear and the words you see before your eyes, and let it sink in to your heart, like a message directly from God to you. It is best to stick to the same bible version when doing this exercise with other members in your group.

Before the first reading, pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal something to you. And then in between the next two readings, pray again for the Holy Spirit to reveal or reaffirm the first thing shared with you. And then at the end of this exercise, quietly meditate on what the Holy Spirit shared with you. Pray into the word/phrase if you are unsure.

Instructions:

1. Have someone read the passage once out loud, quietly noting to yourselves something that jumps out to you. It can be a single word or a phrase.
2. Have someone else read the passage out loud, did something new jump out to you again or different? A single word or a phrase?
3. Finally, have a third person read the passage out loud, did anything new or different jump out to you this time round?

SHARING GOD'S REVELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER

Share with the group what things jumped out to you. Was it the same theme or different things each time? How does it impact your life? How does it make you feel? What do you think these themes, words, phrases mean to you personally? (if you still don't know, you can pray into it together).

MOVING FORWARD IN PRAYER

Spend some time praying over the things together. Lifting each other up in prayer and giving thanks for the things revealed. Pray that these things will continue to encourage each other, or build each other up closer to Christ, to keep renewing you daily in your walk with God.