

Lectio Divina

A Guide For Prayer

Choose a text of the Scripture that you wish to pray. Calm your anxieties and thoughts, and acknowledge God's presence. Offer a prayer to the Holy Spirit for inspiration and guidance:

**"Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my heart and mind
to listen to your Word."**

1 **Lectio:** Read the text slowly and prayerfully, constantly listening for that word that God has prepared for you. You may want to re-read the same text multiple times to help quiet yourself interiorly and focus on God's voice. Listen and receive the Word that God speaks to you.

2 **Meditatio:** When a word or phrase strikes you, stop and rest with it. Repeat the word or phrase to yourself. Allow it to speak to you in a personal way by pondering the word in your heart, reflecting on what it means to you. Memorize it and repeat it to yourself, allowing it to interact with your thoughts, hopes, memories, and desires.

3 **Oratio:** Prayer is your response to God's word. It begins your dialogue with God that comes from your heart. Formulate a prayer, as response to God. What do you want to say to the Lord in response to the Word spoken to you? Enter into this loving conversation with God.

4 **Contemplatio:** Rest in God's presence and receive His transforming embrace. Sit still with God, realizing that in this deep and profound relationship, words are not necessary. Be content and at peace with a wordless, quiet rest in God, which brings joy to the heart. Remember that contemplation is not your action or doing, rather it is allowing God to act in you.

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You are welcome to pray with any Scripture for
Lectio Divina. In case you'd like help getting started,
feel free to try one of these:

Luke 10:38-42

Mary and Martha welcome Jesus into their home.

Mark 10:46-53

Jesus encounters the blind man Bartimaeus in Jerico.

Psalms 139

The intricacies of the Lord's working within us.

Matthew 6:25-34

Do not be anxious.

Matthew 14:13-21

The feeding of the five thousand.

John 2:1-11

The Wedding Feast at Cana.

Psalms 91

Assurance of God's Protection.

Luke 1:39-56

Mary visits Elizabeth.

Matthew 8:23-27

Jesus calms the storm at sea.

John 1:35-39

The first disciples of Jesus.

Isaiah 43:1-2

"I have called you by name and you are mine."

