

Lectio Exercise for a small group

Scripture: John 14:15-27

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

15 “If you love me, keep my commands. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 21 Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”

23 Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. 24 Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

25 “All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

LECTIO

Meditate on the scripture passage with your small group by taking the following steps together.

1. **Silence**
Help the group settle their hearts and minds. Offer a prayer to draw attention away from the busyness of life and draw their eyes to Jesus. Begin with a time of silence.
2. **1st Reading - a group member reads the passage.**
Ask: What is one word or phrase the Holy Spirit impresses on you?
Group members can underline, highlight, or write down just one word or phrase.
3. **2nd Reading: a different group member reads the passage, slower.**
Ask: What do you feel? What specific situation in your life today relates?
Give the group time to reflect in silence, then invite sharing.
4. **3rd Reading: a group member reads the passage again.**

Take time in silence again to reflect on this question: What is Christ's personal invitation to you from the Scripture?
Briefly share.

Close in prayer.

Other suggested passages of scripture:

John 15: 5-17

John 17:13-26

I John 4:7-21

Philippians 4: 4-9

For more instruction and ideas for Lectio with a group, check out [this page](#) from the **Soul Shepherding** website.