

LECTIO DEVINA

Liturgy is nothing more than a form for offering worship and glory to God. The following liturgy is for your benefit as you guide a room to worship and see the glory of God through the practice of Lectio Devina

Lectio Divina is a contemplative way of reading the Bible. It dates back to the early centuries of the Christian Church and was established as a monastic practice by Benedict in the 6th century. It is a way of praying the scriptures that leads us deeper into God's word. We slow down. We read a short passage more than once. We chew it over slowly and carefully. We savour it. Scripture begins to speak to us in a new way. It speaks to us personally, and aids that union we have with God through Christ who is himself the Living Word.

Take liberty to adapt this document and let your character shape the moment as you minister.

Supplies: Bible

Introduction: Each week we enter this room under the weight of busyness. Let us, in this space, set the responsibilities of our day down to free our souls and awaken our spirits to the study of God's presence before we study (insert course title).

Tonight we're going to practice Lectio Devina. This prayer habit is a simple way to pray the scriptures over our lives for the hope that God's Spirit would minister to us through his inspired word.

Open your Bible with me to (insert chapter and verse address).

For the sake of offering a model, this liturgy will make use of Matthew 28:16-20

Body: Matthew tells us,

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶...the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

In this moment, read again the scripture we've read aloud to yourself.

Leave ample room for those present to read the text to themselves.

One more time we will read this text. Before you do, first ask the Lord to reveal to us what his Spirit has for us this evening, morning, day.

Leave ample room for those present to read the text to themselves.

As we collect our thoughts, let's end in a simple prayer,

Benediction: Jesus, despite my greatest doubts, I worship you tonight. It's by your great authority you have commissioned me to be a disciple maker of the nations. You have commissioned me into your priesthood to baptize in your name. You have given me a mind to teach the wisdom you've kindly revealed to me. I thank you that this work is not done alone but with you at my side.

Amen.

In practice of Lectio Divina, it is appropriate to speak or rewrite the text as a prayer. As you prepare, be careful to consider the text and allow your prayer to remain truthful to the principles conveyed and reflect your heart.

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Note(s): Though not necessary, you or your group may find it helpful to prepare a musical element to encourage a pensive or reflective atmosphere.

Resource:  [How to Do Lectio Divina \(feat. Br. Lawrence\) + Catholic 101](#)

- See the 2:00 minute mark (lectio, meditatio, oratio, contemplatio)