

PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE, MEET GOD

Gospel for the Second Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2019

Luke 9:28-36

Day One: Luke 9:28-29

Reflection question: Suppose Jesus took you, along with Peter, James and John, up the mountain to pray. What would have gone through your mind? For what might you be desiring to pray, to see?

Day Two: Luke 4:30-32

Reflection Question: The disciples awake to find Jesus talking to Moses and Elijah. Have you been suddenly startled to find Jesus in your midst? What was that like?

Day Three: Luke 9:33

Reflection Question: As Peter proposes that they erect three tents, so that they can hold onto this moment. What moment with Jesus do you treasure? How do you keep that moment alive?

Day Four: Luke 9:34-36

Reflection question: The Father speaks to the disciples from the crowd, exhorting them to listen to Jesus. Imagine the Father spoke those words to you: how does Jesus speak to you today? How do you tune 'the ears of your heart' to hear Jesus?

Day Five: Luke 9:28-36

Reflection question: As you read the entire passage today, imagine yourself in the scene. How are prompted to respond to the call to listen this Lent?

How to Pray Each Day

Pray:

"Lord Jesus, you who are the Son of the living God, teach me to listen to what you tell me in the holy Scriptures, and to discover your face there."—Guigo II, the Carthusian (ca. 1113-1193)

Read the day's passage once, slowly:

Take 2-3 minutes to ponder the passage. Note any phrase, word or image that stands out for you.

Read the passage a second time slowly:

Take a few minutes to ponder the passage again. Stay with the text: Why do you think the words or image stand out the first time? Is your mind drawn to another part of the text?

What do you think God is trying to tell you through the text today?

Consider the Reflection Question:

Jot down any thoughts or responses you have to this question—also make note of any questions that rose from the text.

Pray

1. Take a few minutes to be still and present to God.
2. Share your thoughts, questions with God.
3. Is God "speaking" to you? Remember: it may not be a voice you hear but a nudge, a consolation or an insight. If you are keeping a journal, you may want to write these down.
4. When you feel done, say a quick prayer thanking God for this time with him.

Optional Small group session to follow these daily reflections:

Pray the following prayer or one in your own words

“Lord Jesus, you who are the Son of the living God, teach me to listen to what you tell me in the holy Scriptures, and to discover your face there.”—Guigo II, the Carthusian (d.1297)

Allow each person to reflect upon their encounters with the Word this past week. They may wish to review any notes or journaling they did at that time.

Read

- Have one person read the complete passage twice, with a 1-2 minute pause between readings.
- Allow time for silent reflection.
- What stands out when you hear the text, altogether? Is it something that stood out before, or is it something new?

Meditate

- Have someone else read the passage once more.
- Where do you meet God today in the Word? Does he speak, or communicate with you in another way?
 - Sit quietly with God and wait for his response.

Ponder

- Allow time for each person to quietly reflect upon these words from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*
2584 In their "one to one" encounters with God, the prophets draw light and strength for their mission. Their prayer is not flight from this unfaithful world, but rather attentiveness to the Word of God. At times their prayer is an argument or a complaint, but it is always an intercession that awaits and prepares for the intervention of the Savior God, the Lord of history.

Reflection questions:

In the Transfiguration, Elijah and Moses encountered Jesus face to face. Prior to that, they encountered God in prayer and the Word of God.

- Where have you found God in prayer?
- Can you relate to how the prophets' prayed to God described above?
- Where have you found God in his Word?

Discuss

Allow each person to share what they encountered in their prayers this past week as in this session. They can respond to any question from their daily reflection or this session; or share an insight or experience that rose out of their prayer.

As the discussion draws to a close, ask if there are any needs members would like the group to pray for. If it is possible, at this time move to a chapel or the church for the closing prayer.

Pray

- Allow a time of silent prayer, allowing each person to offer their own silent prayers of praise and thanksgiving, petition to the Lord.
- Allow additional time to sit in the Lord's presence.
- If possible and appropriate, allow each person to offer any prayers aloud.
- Close with prayer as is the custom of your community. It could be: a spontaneous prayer, a parish prayer for renewal said together, an Our Father, Glory Be or prayer to the patron saint of the parish asking his/her intercession, etc.