

## ACTION

*Witness to the Word of God in daily life.*

### *How can I live out the Word of God?*

*Act as compassionate instruments of God's grace to transform the world. Live as disciples of Christ.*

### ADAPTATIONS FOR COMMUNAL PRAYER

*Someone may read the Scripture passage out loud.*

*The personal and private contemplation moves to communal reflection and dialogue.*

*The movement of action may lead to intercessory prayers for those in need.*

*Close with a prayer, hymn, or canticle appropriate for the season.*



\*\*\*\*\*  
*Reflection questions adapted from Conversing With God In Scripture: A Contemporary Approach to Lectio Divina by Stephen J. Binz and published by The Word Among Us Press, Frederick, MD, 2008, pp 49-52.*  
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# Praying the Bible



## A Personal and Communal Guide

## INVOCATION

*Begin with an invocation to the Holy Spirit or with other opening prayers, hymns, and canticles appropriate for the season.*

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.  
Enkindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.  
And you will renew the face of the earth.  
O Lord who by the light of the Holy Spirit  
did instruct the hearts of your faithful.  
Grant that by that same Spirit,  
we may be truly wise  
and ever enjoy your consolation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## READING

*Read the Scriptural passage.*

***What does this text say?***

*Read (reread) the select Scripture passage with a listening ear. Consider what the text might have meant to the original author and readers. Try to understand what the text means.*

## MEDITATION

*Reflect on the meaning and message of the text.*

***What does this text say to me?***

*Try to understand what the Scripture passage says to you today.  
What aspects of the biblical world resemble our situation today?  
What is the text's message for me right now?  
What emotions and memories does this passage evoke within me?  
Where do I hear Christ speaking to me  
most personally in these verses?  
What grace is this text offering me?  
Which phrase do I want to bring with me to recall  
throughout the day?  
What attitudes or habits must I change in order to truly live  
out these inspired words?*

## PRAYER

*Speak to God in prayerful conversation.*

***What do I want to say to God after reading and reflecting on this text?***

*How am I going to respond to God's call, challenge or insight?  
Will I accept or not? Will I change or not? Will I leave my  
comfortable satisfaction and respond to the living God?*

## CONTEMPLATION

*Rest in the presence of God.*

***How can I deepen my awareness of God?***

*Pray with few words. Enjoy the experience of quietly being in  
God's presence. Remove as many obstacles to the Spirit as you  
can: doubts, schedules, fears, worries and other self-concerns.  
Be receptive to God's grace. Allow God to transform your heart.*