

Week 12: Lectio Divina (Divine Reading)

The four Lectio Divina “moments” flow in and out of each other according to the inspiration of the Spirit. We will read the passage three times in three different voices. Following each reading will be a minute or so of silence to reflect on the questions below. You may want to jot down a brief note in your journal about what God is saying to you.

- 1st reading - What word or phrase stirs my heart?
- 2nd reading - What is the word or phrase saying to me?
- 3rd reading - How is God inviting me to pray, to grow and change?

READING – James 1:22-27 (CEB)

²²You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. ²³Those who hear but don't do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. ²⁴They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don't listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.

²⁶If those who claim devotion to God don't control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless. ²⁷True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

REST in God beyond thoughts. Take a moment to be still and breathe deeply in God's presence with you.

RESOLVE: As you emerge from this place of personal encounter with God to life in the company of others, resolve to carry this word with you and to live it out in the context of daily life and activity.

Week 12: Social Spirituality

1. What happens when personal holiness and social holiness are not held together in creative tension?
2. How and when have you experienced biblical spirituality that “probes our complicity in the injustice of the world, our own contribution to the dehumanizing perspectives and practices that shape our portion of the world”?
3. How have you seen theology captured by its context or by the prevailing culture? What happens when this occurs?
4. In Mulholland’s descriptions of the churches in Revelation, which aspects resonate with your own experience of the church and your own spiritual life?
5. As you are coming to the end of this book, how would you define holistic spirituality?
6. What is your vision, your hunger, your strategy for entering more fully into the pilgrimage toward wholeness in Christ?
7. What else stood out to you from this week’s reading?

Next Steps

What is one specific way I will respond to God’s invitation for me this week?

Recommended Resources for Continuing the Journey

- *The Deeper Journey: The Spirituality of Discovering Your True Self*, by: Robert Mulholland Jr.
- *Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation*, by: Ruth Haley Barton
- *The Way of the Heart: Connecting with God Through Prayer, Wisdom, and Silence*, by: Henri Nouwen