

Dwelling in the Word (Adapted)
March 2020

Begin in prayer:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Listen:

Hear the passage read once, then spend a minute or two in silence, letting the Word dwell in your ears and heart.

Hear the passage read again, by another voice.

Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- What image, word, or phrase in this passage did God use to get your attention?
Share just a word or phrase without commentary or analysis in this first step.
- What excites or inspires you here? What challenges you or makes you uncomfortable?
- How does this help you understand our purpose as disciples of Jesus?
- What difference will what we have heard make for our work together?

Larger groups should break into pairs or small groups for the first two discussion items and then share insights with the larger group before continuing to discuss the final two questions.

Dwelling in the Word (Adapted)
April 2020

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Ephesians 3:7-13

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. I pray therefore that you may not lose heart over my sufferings for you; they are your glory.

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Dwelling in the Word (Adapted)
May 2020

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Jeremiah 29:11-14

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

- What image, word, or phrase in this passage did God use to get your attention?
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