

Dwelling in the Word (Adapted)
June 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 20:20-28

The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to Jesus with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

- 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 your relationship with 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.

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1 John 4:7-14

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world.

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Dwelling in the Word (Adapted)
August 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.

Psalm 25:6-14

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.

Who are they that fear the Lord? He will teach them the way that they should choose.

They will abide in prosperity, and their children shall possess the land.

The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him,
and he makes his covenant known to them.

- 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 your relationship with Jesus?
- What difference will what we have heard make for our work together?

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