



While most reading plans focus on reading large portions of the Bible, Lectio Divina is an ancient way to read and meditate on individual scriptures.

The name “Lectio Divina” is Latin for “Divine Reading”. This practice is not just used for studying Scripture; it is used to hear from God. In Lectio Divina, you allow the *scripture* to study *you* as you sit with the text in God’s presence. Lectio Divina creates space for God to speak to you about His word.

How to Practice Lectio Divina:

(You will need 10-15 minutes for this practice.)

1. **Listen:** Find a comfortable, quiet place to sit. Take one minute of silence and ask God to speak with you during this time. (Sitting in silence gets easier the more it is practiced.)
2. **Read:** Start by reading the passage. Read it again and look for a single word or phrase that stands out to you. Spend some time contemplating the word or phrase.
3. **Reflect:** Ask yourself, “How does this passage or phrase apply to my life?” The application here may be very personal.
4. **Respond:** Pray that God would show you what He wants to show you in this passage. Perhaps it is a conviction to follow Him, some insight into an emotion, or an idea or action you can take. Ask God to clarify this for you.
5. **Contemplation:** Read the scripture one final time and close in another minute of silence.

GENESIS | *Practice Lectio Divina with one of the texts below.*

- **1:1** | In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- **15:1** | Some time later, the Lord spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, “Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great.”
- **28:15** | What’s more, I am with you, and I will protect you wherever you go. One day I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have finished giving you everything I have promised you.”
- **39:20-21** | So he (Potiphar) took Joseph and threw him into the prison where the king’s prisoners were held, and there he remained. ²¹ But the Lord was with Joseph in the prison and showed him his faithful love
- **50:20** | You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.