



Come & See Year 5 – Go Make Disciples

LECTIO DIVINA

LENT WEEK 4

1. Opening Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Come Holy Spirit, open our hearts and minds to receive the word of God. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

Prayer from the Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Lent:



Let us pray for a greater faith and love: Father of peace, we are joyful in your Word, your Son Jesus Christ, who reconciles us to you. Let us hasten towards Easter with eagerness of faith and love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

2. Reading the text: *Ask someone to read the gospel. Allow time for silent reflection, then ask another person to read the same gospel (preferably a male if the first reader was female or vice versa).*

A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke 15:1-3. 11-32

The tax collectors and sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man,' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them.

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me,' So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the youngest son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, 'How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will

leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.' So he left the place and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found,' And they began to celebrate.

Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near to the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. 'Your brother has come' replied the servant 'and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.' He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him: but he answered his father, 'Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son or yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.'

The father said, 'My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'

3. Reflecting on the text

- Ponder the words and phrases in silence
- What kind of text is this? (parable, miracle, encounter, healing, teaching etc.)
- Look at the people and events in the story
- Speak out any words or phrases that strike you (without having to say why)

4. Participation: Moving from in that time (*in illo tempore*) to in this time (*in hoc tempore*), share your thoughts on:

- *What is the Lord saying to me through the text?*
- *What is the Lord saying in relation to issues in the Church, in the world, and in my life?*
- *Does the text inspire, console, question, direct?*

5. Finish the sentence: *In this passage God is...*

6. Praying out of the text: *Lord, in the light of this text...*

7. Conclude by praying the Our Father

