



# Praying the Scriptures

## *Reading Reality in Light of the Word*

### FIRST MOVEMENT

We begin by pausing for a few moments to quiet ourselves and to remember that God is, even in this very moment, present to each of us.

- *In all creation, every around you*
- *In your very self, keeping you alive*
- *In the midst of those with whom you are praying*
- *In the Eucharist and in the Word of God*
- *In you by God's grace at work in your life*
- *In the chapel as God's dwelling place*
- *In the young and the poor*

Ask for the graces necessary to understand better what God's will is for you and that you might give yourself wholeheartedly to a more conscious accomplishment of this will.

### SECOND MOVEMENT

Read the following Scripture a few times slowly. What word or words especially catch your attention? Listen to what is being said, pay attention to what is surfacing inside of you, try to enter into the story.

### 1 Samuel, Chapter 3:3-10, 19

One day Eli was asleep in his usual place. His eyes had lately grown so weak that he could not see.

The lamp of God was not yet extinguished,\* and Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was.

The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am."

He ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli answered. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep.

Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But he answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep."

Samuel did not yet recognize the LORD, since the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth.

So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and stood there, calling out as before: Samuel, Samuel! Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to go unfulfilled.

### SECOND MOVEMENT *(continued)*

Reflect on the Mystery of God's love at work in your own life.

- *What words or words in this passage caught your attention?*
- *What in this passage comforted you?*
- *What in this passage challenged you?*
- *Does God always call at the perfect time? Is there confusion sometimes when God calls in your life? It took Samuel three times to get it right. Do you always recognize God's call right away?*
- *In the light of Samuel being a young boy at the time of this reading, what would you say about the most experienced sages (wise person) always being the one to do God's work? Do you fit the category, "wise sage"? What is God calling you to do?*
- *Does the Scripture have any relevance for your life?*
- *How does this text invite you to be more faithful to the ministry of the human and Christian education of youth?*
- *How do you try to share the message of this Scripture with those with whom you live and work been entrusted to your care?*
- *If you choose to allow this scripture passage to come alive in you now, what would have to change in your life? What are the obstacles to this change?*

If praying in a group setting, after time for quiet reflection, invite participants to share their responses to some of the questions above.

### THIRD MOVEMENT

Resolve to be open to the Spirit working in and through you today.

Where is the Spirit drawing you to sacrifice yourself today that others might have a happier, fuller, holier, and more love-filled life?

Take a few minutes now to thank God for this time you have spent in prayer and to reoffer yourself, *as far as your are able*, to the accomplishment of God's will... God's plan.

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### SECOND MOVEMENT

Read the following Scripture a few times slowly. What word or words especially catch your attention? Listen to what is being said, pay attention to what is surfacing inside of you, try to enter into the story.

### 1 Corinthians, Chapter 6: 13-15, 17-20

"Food for the stomach and the stomach for food," but God will do away with both the one and the other. The body, however, is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body;

God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power.

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take Christ's members and make them the members of a prostitute? Of course not!

But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.

Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body.

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body.

### SECOND MOVEMENT *(continued)*

Reflect on the Mystery of God's love at work in your own life.

- *What words or words in this passage caught your attention?*
- *What in this passage comforted you?*
- *What in this passage challenged you?*
- *"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?" Are you always aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit within you? Give some reasons why you can show reverence for all the people in your life.*
- *Do you always call on the Holy Spirit for guidance when you need it? Do you get it? Explain. Do you also receive some peace along with the guidance? Do you think the Holy Spirit enjoys, indeed, is waiting to be called upon for help?*
- *Does the Scripture have any relevance for your life?*
- *How does this text invite you to be more faithful to the ministry of the human and Christian education of youth?*
- *How do you try to share the message of this Scripture with those with whom you live and work... with those that have been entrusted to your care?*
- *If you choose to allow this scripture passage to come alive in you now, what would have to change in your life? What are the obstacles to this change?*

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### John, Chapter 1:35-42

The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God."

The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"

He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon.

Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus.

He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).

Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).



### SECOND MOVEMENT *(continued)*

Reflect on the Mystery of God's love at work in your own life.

- *What words or words in this passage caught your attention?*
- *What in this passage comforted you?*
- *What in this passage challenged you?*
- *Jesus asked, "what are you looking for?" He could have said, "what is most important to you?" How would you answer that question?*
- *The second loaded question: "Where are you staying?" could be restated, "where can we spend time with you?" Do you spend time in the presence of God? Did the disciples find what they were looking for when they spent time with Jesus? What was that? Will it work for you?*
- *Does the Scripture have any relevance for your life?*
- *How does this text invite you to be more faithful to the ministry of the human and Christian education of youth?*
- *How do you try to share the message of this Scripture with those with whom you live and work... with those that have been entrusted to your care?*
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