



## *Gathering Guide for Week 06 of the Summer Tour - July 20-26*



*“There is need of only one thing.”*

*This is what we hear Jesus tell us in this week’s Gospel. We can be anxious and worried about many things; but we actually need only one thing.*

On this, the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, we continue our journey through chapter 10 of Luke’s Gospel. Last week, Jesus told the parable of The Good Samaritan; this week, we learn of Mary’s desire to learn at His feet while Martha complains about the effort of serving Jesus and His followers. And Jesus reminds us that all we need is to sit at His feet ... and our healing, our hope, our joy will begin right there.

Below are the steps for your Lectio Divina prayer during your Group gathering. You may choose to experience the first five steps on your own, in advance of your group gathering ... or if you are not able to join your group this week.

When you are in group, be sure to allow times of silence throughout these steps so that God may enter into your hearts.

**1. Pray.** Take a moment to calm yourself and open your heart to hearing what God wants you to recognize in this Gospel. *(Then pray throughout...)*

*Heavenly Father,  
Thank you for the small group that You have brought into my life. Bless each person,  
that their week will be filled with Your Holy Spirit and their days will be filled with the joy  
that our faith in You brings us.*

*As we each prepare for our next Group gathering, bless each of us with eyes to truly see  
Your Word, with ears to truly hear Your voice and with the grace to be open to the  
changes You want each of us to make in our lives this week.*

*Thank You for loving me, dear Jesus. I love You.  
Amen.*

**2. Read.** Read or/ or listen to this week's Gospel. As you read, **pray:** *God, give me **eyes to see** what you want me to see in this Gospel.*

### **Sunday, July 20: The 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Luke 10:38-42**

Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed Him.  
She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.

Martha, burdened with much serving, came to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me."

The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."

**The Gospel of the Lord.** *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**3. Meditate.** Note any word or phrase that stands out to you. Now, re-read the passage, focusing on the word or phrase that first got your attention. **Pray:** *God, give me **ears to hear** what You are telling me in this Gospel.*

**4. Pray.** Engage in conversation with God, expressing your thoughts and feelings related to the passage, especially the particular word or phrases that stood out to you.

**5. Contemplate.** Rest in God's presence, allowing yourself to be still and receive God's insights from the Scripture passage. Consider what God may be saying to you in the word or phrase that stood out to you. Consider what action or change He may be inspiring you to take. **Pray:** *God, give me the **grace to make the changes** in my life that You want me to make, inspired by this Gospel.*

**6. Share.** When it is your turn in Group, share what word or phrase stood out to you, why it stood out and what action you believe God is asking of you.

**7. Listen. Learn. Help.** When others share their experiences of what stood out to them, why and the action it inspired, try to understand and learn from what you hear. If there is something you can do for someone, as an individual or as a group, to help them with their action, offer that.

**8. Reflect on additional questions.** If there is time after your Lectio Divina sharing, consider these Reflection Questions:

- Do you ever find yourself “anxious and worried by many things”? What can you learn from this Gospel about how to handle those moments?
- What does “choosing the good part” mean to you?
- What is the one activity that you know, if you did superbly well and consistently, would have significant positive results in your walk with God? If you know this would make such a significant difference, why did you not do it this past week? Consider what distractions have you prioritized over this one activity.

**9. Pray.**

After this moving prayer experience, you will likely want to close by thanking God.

**Intersessions for the Group:** Take some time before the gathering concludes to pray together for the group members

*God in Heaven,*

*Thank You for caring so much for me that You speak to me in Your Gospel. Please continue to give me eyes that see what You want me to see, ears that hear what You want me to Hear and the grace that enables me to change in the ways that You want me to change. Help me to always trust in You.*

*And thank you for the people You have placed in my life who help me on my journey to grow closer to You, to love You and to serve You and your children. I am especially grateful for the people in my small Group.*

*Bless all of us with a peaceful and joy-filled week ahead. And please keep us safe and healthy, especially those who are traveling.*

*I pray in the Name of Your Son, Jesus.*

*Amen.*