

## *Gathering Guide for Week 06 of the Summer Tour - July 27 - August 2*



*“Ask and you shall receive.”*

*For everyone who asks, receives; the one who seeks, finds;  
and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.*

Most of us have said the Lord’s Prayer hundreds, if not thousands, of times. But how often do we reflect on what we’re truly asking God?

This week’s Gospel introduces us to a section of the Lord’s Prayer given to us by Jesus, Himself. The passage gives us the context in which Jesus told us to how to pray: we are to persistently ask God for what we need and ask for His forgiveness because we forgive others. Jesus goes on to explain how we must trust that God will give us what we need because He is even more reliable than a good earthly father.

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 27: The 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Luke 11:1-13**

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples."

He said to them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, hallowed be Your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test.'"

And He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived at my house from a journey and I have nothing to offer him,' and he says in reply from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked and my children and I are already in bed. I cannot get up to give you anything!'

"I tell you, if he does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence.

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

"What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

**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:

- When you ask God to give you your "daily bread," how well do you trust God to give you what you need?
- Have you ever found yourself seeking and began to trust In God, then found what you were seeking?
- If God truly forgave you the way you forgive others, just how forgiven might you feel?

**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.*