



## *Gathering Guide for Week 10 of the Summer Tour - August 17-23*



*“I have come to set the earth on fire,  
and how I wish it were already blazing!”  
Jesus is very passionate about His mission on earth  
... and the mission He gave to us.*

This week's Gospel gives us a peak into the sense of urgency Jesus felt during His time on earth: to save us by showing His Way of love and obedience. He gave His all to that mission, even to His crucifixion and death!

To fulfill the mission He gave us, to make disciples by sharing His good news, we must make our fire burn with urgency. His Way is countercultural, so we may face division, as this Gospel shows us. But, such division is only temporary, here on earth.

Let's keep our fire burning with the desire to serve God for His glory!

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, August 17: The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Luke 12:49-53**

Jesus said to His disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is My anguish until it is accomplished!"

"Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?"

"No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on, a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

**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:

- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is passionate about YOU, that He loves YOU so much that not only was He willing to die for you, He had a strong sense of urgency to get His message, His Good News to YOU?
- Is your desire to serve God burning like fire within you?
- If it is, how do you keep it burning? If it is not, how can you light such a fire?

### **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.*