

AFRICAN BIBLE STUDY

(Should take 30-40 minutes)

This Bible Study method was introduced by the African Delegation to the Lambeth Conference. It is known by both names: "Lambeth" and "African." It is rooted in the ancient method of praying the scriptures, known as Lectio Divina, or "Holy Reading".

1 Opening Prayer: **O Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our savior Jesus Christ, Amen.**

2 One individual reads passages slowly.

3 Each person identifies the word or phrase that catches their attention. (1 minute)

4 Each shares the word or phrase around the group. (3-5 minutes, NO DISCUSSION)

5 Another person reads the passage slowly (from a different translation, if possible.)

6 Each person identifies where this passage touches their life today. (1 minute)

7 Each shares. (3-5 minutes, NO DISCUSSION)

8 Passage is read a third time (another reader and translation, if possible.)

9 Each person names or writes: "From what I've heard and shared, what do I believe God wants me to do or be? Is God inviting me to change in any way? (5 minutes)

10 Each shares their answer. (5-10 minutes, NO DISCUSSION)

11 Each prays for the person on their right, naming what was shared in other steps. (5 minutes)

12 Close with the international and ecumenical translation of the Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours
Now and for ever.
Amen.**