

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

SCRIPTURE

Reflecting on the Word of God

In God's loving concern for us, He hasn't left us to figure out His will—or His unconditional love for all of us—on our own, but has instead provided His Word in Scripture. This means that we don't only have the opportunity to speak to God in prayer, but through Scripture we can actually hear God speaking directly to us. The Bible is God's "love letter" to His children, affirming, encouraging, and guiding each one of us in our walk with Jesus!

Whether it's reading about God's abounding patience with the Israelites, Jesus' persistent concern for the poor and suffering, or St. Paul's words of wisdom about the mercy of our heavenly Father, Scripture remains a critical way for us to know and to love God. Since we believe that Scripture is inspired by the Holy Spirit, for us Catholics it holds a special place within the Church. Unlike any other text, Scripture not only reveals God's plan for salvation, but it is truly living and active, speaking to our lives in unique and personal ways. Additionally, since Jesus is the "Word made flesh," we are actually encountering Jesus as the Word whenever we encounter Scripture. This is why at every Mass the Church proclaims the living Word of God, so that it nourishes, enlightens, and provides us with "food for the soul."



Since we literally encounter the person of Jesus in Scripture, it plays a very important part in our walk as disciples. It's why St. Jerome once said, "ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ." What a great gift we have as His disciples in being able to have Christ speak to us whenever we want through Scripture.

Lenten Reflection Questions:

Can you recall instances when Scripture revealed something to you about your own life or comforted you in some way?

In what ways have you come to know Christ through Scripture?

How can you implement just a few minutes of reading Scripture every day?