



# LIVING THE MISSION PRAYER

AWAKEN RISK BLESS

## DWELLING IN THE WORD

### PURPOSE

Dwelling in the Word invites us to explore the text of scripture through the lens of our personal experience. Our personal unfolding story is not that different from those we read about in scripture. When we open ourselves the Spirit can speak to us through the text and the life experiences of others as we share in sacred community.

### SUGGESTED STEPS

1. Pre-select a scripture text. Do not select a text longer than a few paragraphs.
2. Read the scripture twice allowing time (at least two minutes) for reflection between readings. After providing reflection time after the second reading, invite participants to consider the following questions:
  - a. Is there a word, phrase, or image that is speaking to your life experience in this moment?
  - b. How might the Spirit be inviting you to respond? You may choose to provide a copy of the scripture for those who find it helpful to follow along as the text is read.You may choose to provide a copy of the scripture for those who find it helpful to follow along as the text is read.
3. Invite people into group sharing around the questions provided above.
4. End your time together with a prayer of gratitude.

### TIPS FOR THE PROCESS

Be patient. Take time for being with and deepening relationships with one another. Listen to, affirm, and encourage one another. In some cases, it might be helpful to have people form groups of two or three and encourage opportunities to get to know others.

Be open and allow moments of silence for the reading of scripture to transform our understanding and our way of being and doing. Do not let this become an intellectual exercise which will limit the transformative impact of this practice. If someone wishes to remain silent, that is acceptable.