

## Dwelling in Scripture Together as a Diocesan Household

You are invited to join together with the whole diocesan household to dwell in scripture together this again this year. We recommend beginning every meeting or other gathering in the diocese with Dwelling in the Word or Gospel-Based Discipleship. This year, please use the lectionary Gospel text for the coming Sunday, which can be found at [episcopalchurch.org/lectionary](http://episcopalchurch.org/lectionary).

*God, as we continue to shape our lives in the pattern of your son Jesus, help us to grow closer to you, to those journeying with us, and to those whom you favor, the poor and marginalized. Help our Jesus-shaped lives reflect the light of Your saving love in the world. Amen.*

### Dwelling in the Word Instructions

#### *Listen and Reflect*

1. One person reads the entire passage appointed for the current season out loud.
2. Ask people to be open to the Spirit through these questions:  
*Where was your imagination sparked in this text?*  
*What word or phrase leapt out?*  
*Is there something you'd like to ask a biblical scholar about?*
3. Another person reads the passage aloud again.
4. Invite people to ponder the questions. Take 3 - 5 minutes for quiet reflection.
5. Pair off with a reasonably friendly stranger in the room. Introduce yourselves, and share: What did you hear God saying to you?
6. Invite people to regather and to share with the broader group what they heard their partner say. (This is the hard part! And this is where we build our capacity for listening.)

*Adapted from: Dwelling in the Word*

### Gospel-Based Discipleship Instructions

1. One person reads the entire passage appointed for the current season out loud. Consider and discuss the question: *What word(s), idea(s), or sentence(s) stand out to you?*
2. Read the passage again. Consider and discuss the question: *What is Jesus/the passage saying to you?*
3. Read the passage a third time. Consider and discuss the question: *What is Jesus/the passage calling you to do?*

*Adapted from: A Disciple's Prayer Book*