

into
LIFE
Study guide



John 14:1-14
For Individuals and Life Groups
February 26, 2017

Introduction:

A big word with a simple meaning. Resurrection is the idea that a living being is brought back to life after having died. In the Christian tradition we believe that only one person has been raised from the dead and is still living today. That person is Jesus. There is a bigger story at work in history, and Jesus is the central person in that story. Jesus invites us to share in the life that he has. A resurrected life.



Into the scriptures

Because we have studied John 14 recently. This week we will practice something called Lectio Divina. Lectio Divina is a prayerful reading of a Bible passage. Simply follow the instructions and enter into God's presence through the text.

Lectio Divina(Modified version)

Pray

The Benedictine Christians of the sixth century introduced a form of meditation and prayer called *lectio divina*. They used a pattern composed of several steps that allowed them to focus on a particular text, to think about it from various angles, to pray and to try to become aware of what God revealed to them through that passage. Use this modified form of the *lectio divina* to absorb the important teachings that Jesus gave to Thomas in John 14:1-7.

Silencio (Silence)

Take time to be silent: prepare to communicate with God as he expresses himself to you in this passage of Scripture. After a period of quiet, ask God's help as you enter this session of meditative prayer.

Lectio (Read)

Read John 14:1-7 aloud several times slowly. Allow its words and meanings to sink into your soul.

Meditatio (Meditate)

Meditation is a little like chewing. It is slow and thorough. Write notes about what you see in this passage. Make connections between the various sections. Ask yourself, "What do these words from God say?" "What do they mean?" Place who you are and what you do next to this passage and ask God to examine you. Continue to write your findings.

Oratio (Prayer)

Pray using the passage as an outline for your prayer. Read the passage phrase-by-phrase, responding to God after each.

Contemplatio (Contemplation)

Wait in stillness once more. Ask that God bring to your mind any areas of your life that you need to shape more closely to his design as revealed in this passage. Contemplate God's love and power as it is revealed here.

Incarnatio (Live it Out)

What precisely ought you to be believing, thinking and doing as a result of this passage?

Make notes about how you hope to bring these words from Jesus into your current practice.

Source: *Never Beyond Hope*, pp. 134-135, J. I. Packer and Carolyn Nystrom, Intervarsity Press, 2000.



Prayer List



Challenge for the week:



More Resources for personal and group use:



24-7-3 reading plan. For the next seven weeks read 3 chapters in John each day. When you finish the book start from the beginning.



A little about Westwood Church...

We believe that God changes lives!



That motivates us to...

Bring Jesus into Life

By...

...becoming an increasingly healthy, vibrant and effective witness for Jesus in Prince George and around the world!

We do this by engaging in three things:



GATHER

Sunday mornings to celebrate and learn about God



GROUPS

Weekly meetings that go deeper in relationships with each other and God



GO

Serving in the church and community to present Jesus to the world