

How to Conduct the Catholic Faith Sharing Group

Invite 3-4 people to join you in a faith-sharing group. One evening a week before each Sunday's liturgy, your group will meet in the home of one of the group's members. Each person brings their own Bible so that they can learn to use it with their friends. **The Faith Sharing will be based on the scriptures for the coming Sunday**, which you can find in your parish bulletin.

Begin with the sign of the cross. Announce the location of the Gospel for Sunday – for example, “Luke, Chapter one, verses five through eight.” **Each group member can then locate that Gospel in their own Bible.**

Step One

“What do you SEE in the Gospel?”

Participants are asked to listen to the Gospel as it is read by one person of the group, and to concentrate on whom or what in the reading creates an image or picture in their minds. After the reading, each participant will share their image with the group.

Step Two

“What do you HEAR in the Gospel?”

Participants are asked to listen to the same Gospel being read by a second person, and to concentrate on what word or phrase stands out most clearly to them. After the reading, each participant will share this word or phrase with the group.

Step Three

“What do I need to DO in my life in order to better follow Jesus?”

Participants are asked to listen to the same Gospel being read by a third person, connecting what they heard with what they saw in the Gospel, and ask themselves what they feel they need to do in their own lives to better follow Jesus. Each participant takes a turn sharing with the group.

Offer prayers of intercession for the needs of the world and for local needs. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

There are two elements at work: WITNESS, which is the simple living of the faith, and SHARING, which is spreading the Good News of Jesus in an explicit way. (Catholic Bishops of the United States)

The Catholic Faith Sharing Group

Learn how to use the Bible to enrich your spiritual life by preparing for Sunday's liturgy.

- ❖ Catholics break open the Word of God in your home with your personal Bible in hand.
- ❖ Enrich and build on your faith and Sunday liturgy will become more meaningful.
- ❖ Practice Gospel values in your life.
- ❖ Bring the presence of Christ, celebrated in Word and Sacrament, into the world to transform the world.

Our mission, as baptized Catholics, is to combat greed, selfishness, and violence with love, justice, and peace – the traits of the Kingdom of God.

Are you ready?

Jesus, you are the Savior of the world.

We Praise God for sending you to us to experience the joys and disappointments of life and to show us how to respond in faith.

We ponder your life in the pages of the Gospel with the hope that we will behave like you in this life.

We pray for your help that we will continue to make Sunday liturgy the priority of our week.

May our faith sharing sessions be a nurturing place for faith to grow. Help us to be hospitable to returning Catholics and others who wish to join our Church.

We call on all the Saints of our tradition to pray for us and our diocese to our Loving God, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Holy Spirit
Who reign as one forever and ever.
Amen

The Catholic Faith Sharing Group

The Bible
and
The Liturgy



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*Bring the Good News of Jesus
into every human situation and
seek to convert individuals and
society by the divine power of
the Gospel itself
(On Evangelization in the Modern
World, #18)*