

THAT THE GOD OF OUR  
LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
THE FATHER OF  
GLORY, MAY GIVE YOU  
A SPIRIT OF WISDOM  
AND REVELATION  
RESULTING IN  
KNOWLEDGE OF HIM.

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EPHESIANS 1:17



**CONCEPTION**  
*Living the Benedictine Tradition*  
**SEMINARY COLLEGE**

## STEPS OF LECTIO DIVINA

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- Choose a text of the Scriptures that you wish to pray.
- Place yourself in a quiet place and acknowledge God's presence.
- Offer a prayer to the Holy Spirit: *Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my heart and mind to listen to your Word.*

**1. *Lectio*:** Read the text slowly and prayerfully, constantly listening for that word that God has prepared for you. You may want to re-read the same text multiple times to help quiet yourself interiorly and focus on God's voice. Listen and receive the Word that God speaks to you.

**2. *Meditatio*:** When a word or phrase strikes you, stop and rest with it. Repeat the word or phrase to yourself. Allow it to speak to you in a personal way by pondering the word in your heart, reflecting on what it means to you. Memorize it and repeat it to yourself, allowing it to interact with your thoughts, hopes, memories, and desires.

**3. *Oratio*:** Prayer is your response to God's word. It begins your dialogue with God that comes from your heart. Formulate a prayer, as a response to God. What do you want to say to the Lord in response to the Word spoken to you? Enter into this loving conversation with God.

**4. *Contemplatio*:** Rest in God's presence and receive His embrace. Sit still with God, realizing that in this deep relationship, words are not necessary. Be content and at peace with a wordless, quiet rest in God, which brings joy to the heart. Remember that contemplation is not your action, but allowing God to act.