

Lectionary Based Catechesis

1. **Opening Prayer** We pray together to make ourselves aware of the presence of Christ.
2. **We listen to the text** The chosen Scripture passage is read aloud.
3. **A period of silent prayer** We pause in silence.
And in silence we become aware of our initial understanding of the text.
Did a word touch you in a particular way?
What feelings did you have?
What mood did the text inspire in you?
4. **The Scripture passage is read a second time**
5. **We share what we have in our hearts**

Help each other by sharing personal insights.
What did you 'hear'?
There is no need to share if you do not want to.
There is no discussion at this point.
6. **We search together** Examine in the light of the Scripture
– your life
– your neighbourhood
– current events

Does it involve change?
Which teachings of the Church are rooted in the reading?
What is new in your understanding?
7. **We pray together** A prepared closing prayer is read together.
Alternatively if the group wishes, spontaneous prayers could be invited.

Catechists' Pointers

1. Core group take it in turns to lead opening prayer, until enquirers show a desire/become confident enough to do so.
2. Core group take it in turns to read Scripture until enquirers show a desire/become confident enough to do so.
3. This period of silence may be relatively short to begin with. As the group gradually gets to know each other better, and the bond of trust develops, the period of silence will naturally lengthen.
4. Core group ensures one member takes the lead initially to encourage the 'flow' at this stage.
5. If the group includes enquirers who have not yet even been baptized, the core group may decide to adopt the Scripture-based approach for Steps 15, and then a shortened period of time devoted to Step 6, so that there can be a brief presentation of 'The Sacrament of Baptism' – given either by a team member or a member of 'The Parish Baptism Preparation Group'. CCC 1275-1284.

