

AN INTRODUCTION TO *Gospel-Based Discipleship*

What is *Gospel-Based Discipleship (GBD)*?

Gospel-Based Discipleship is an encounter with the Gospel that is designed to engage people with the Gospel.

Some Ways to Begin

There are many ways to read, study and meditate on passages of Scripture. You should use any approach that helps you engage the Gospel. I encourage you to incorporate this into other ways of daily devotions you may already use. Here is just one method of reflecting on the Gospel.

Gospel Reflection

Begin with prayer.

1. Read the Gospel lesson for the day.
What word(s), idea(s) or sentence(s) stand out to you?
2. Re-read the Gospel (maybe in another translation if available).
What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you?
3. Re-read the Gospel.
What is Jesus (the Gospel) calling you to do?

Close with prayer.

In *GBD*, there are no right or wrong answers. The engagement is with the Gospel, not with a leader or the search for correct answers. Experienced leaders are not required, and leadership should rotate.

Groups and/or individuals using *GBD* regularly should expect to begin to see their call to mission differently. Some congregations use *GBD* as a way to focus on what God is calling them to do in their communities.

*- From the Most Rev. Michael Curry
Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church*

SOME PRAYERS FOR USE WITH *Gospel-Based Discipleship*

God of peace, let us your people know, that at the heart of turbulence there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you. Keep us from being content with things as they are, that from this central peace there may come a creative compassion, a thirst for justice, and a willingness to give of ourselves in the Spirit of Christ. *Amen.*

- *A New Zealand Prayer Book*

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

- *The Book of Common Prayer*

O God, who has taught us that your Word is a lantern to our feet and a light to our path: Grant that as this community devoutly reads the Holy Scriptures, we may realize our Fellowship with one another in you, and may learn thereby to know you more fully, to love you more truly, and to follow more faithfully in the steps of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God blessed for evermore. *Amen.*

- *The Wolf Shall Dwell with The Lamb* by Eric H. F. Law

Most gracious and loving God:
Strengthen the hearts of your people in this Diocese,
That loving you with our whole heart,
And loving our neighbor as ourselves,
We might, in the power of the Spirit,
Obey the call of Jesus,
To go into our world as disciples,
Making disciples,
And making a difference,
Through your saving love. *Amen.*

- *The Mission Prayer of the Diocese of North Carolina*