

VERBUHAY'S GUIDE FOR BIBLE FACILITATORS

*(I am sharing with you how, in the past year and a half, we have been using Verbhay in our weekly Bible Prayer-Study Meeting- **Editor**)*



PRELIMINARY TASKS FOR THE FACILITATORS AND THE GROUP MEMBERS:

Prepare the place: Bible, candles, flowers for the Bible Enthronement and an appropriate song or an AVP (audio-visual presentation) for the theme of the Sunday Readings you study and pray over. It is advisable that before hand, ALL must have read thoroughly and prayed over Verbhay Bible Study Guide, asking especially the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Highlighters may be used to stress words or group of words that strike most the pray-ers and personal reflections may be written on the spaces provided for.

LECTIO DIVINA PROPER:

1. **OPENING PRAYER** (expressing Praise and Blessing God, and invoking the guidance of the Holy Spirit) followed by an **OPENING SONG** or Audio Visual Presentation (An appropriate song or AVP which can be a jumping board for introducing the general theme of the Sunday Readings) is sung.
2. **INTRODUCTION**. In a gist, the facilitator, through the aid of the song or the AVP or the Opening Prayer, will introduce to the group the Theme of the Sunday Readings. The titles of the Guides will give you clue.
3. **READING**. The Facilitator then asks someone to read the First Reading. The Reader ends with, "The Word of the Lord." After the response, "Thanks be to God," a brief silence is observed just to let the Word sink in, and the facilitator creatively repeats (maybe read) the **FOCUS** of the Reading. Then another person (preferably the opposite sex of the first reader for variety sake) is asked to read again the First Reading, and ends in the same manner.
4. **COMMENTARY**. Depending on your creativity

- and mastery of the text, go through (or read) the Commentary. Some questions or points may be raised to clarify the text. Anybody who feels enlightened to contribute to the explanation of the text may do so.
5. **REFLECTIONS**. Having been aided by the Commentary, any person may share one's reflection on the Reading. The highlighted words and written reflections may be read by any inspired pray-er.
 6. **REPEAT THE SAME PATTERN FOR THE NEXT TWO READINGS**.
 7. **TIE- UP THE THREE READINGS FOR FURTHER REFLECTIONS**. Read the first paragraph or the end section of II. **TYING THE THREE READINGS...** that tries to connect together the ideas of all the Three Readings. You may start sharing faith-life experiences or ask other group members to share further reflections especially on the message of God in their lives. You may read some questions or food for thoughts from **OUR CONTEXT** to focus the application of the Readings. Sometimes the facilitator may give a final message to wrap up the sharing, or when an urgent matter arises, plan of action is done.
 8. **FINAL PRAYER** is said, by the Facilitator or by an assigned person. In some cases, our Opening Song is repeated and we appreciate more the depth of its meaning.
- May the Holy Spirit Bless and Guide You in your Bible Study-Prayer Session!*
- **Editor**, Verbhay Quarterly