

# 11 Steps for Praying With Scripture

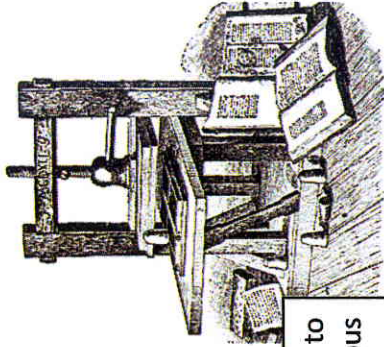
- Choose a passage of Scripture, about five to ten verses in length.
- Choose a comfortable place where you can be uninterrupted and uninhibited.
- Light a candle. Take a few deep breaths or stretch the body and then relax.
- Acknowledge God's presence with you. Ask God to send the Spirit to be with you and guide you in this time of reflection.
- Read the passage you have chosen slowly, listening carefully to it. You might want to pause after a sentence or phrase.
- Speak aloud the words or phrases that struck you. Do not discuss them, just speak them. Read the passage a second time, slowly and prayerfully.
- Consider the message the passage might have for you—a challenge, an affirmation, an insight. If doing this with others, you could invite them to share what comes to mind.
- Read the passage a third time, slowly and prayerfully.
- Pause for about ten minutes of silence and allow the Spirit to speak to you. If no words or thoughts come, just sit in the silence. Sometimes God touches us in ways that we cannot know.
- Consider how the passage calls you to action following the time of prayer. Is there something you need to do to make the Scripture alive for you here and now?
- Close with a brief prayer of thanksgiving or praise to God for the gift of the Spirit.

# Brief History of the Roman Missal



**1474**

The first printed Roman Missal dates back to 1474, the first year of the printing press. Previous editions had been carefully copied by hand.



**1570**

Pope Saint Pius V made the Roman Missal mandatory for most of the Church, except for those dioceses and religious orders that had used their own approved Missal for 200 years or more.



## Revised Latin Versions

1604 – Pope Clement VII

1634 – Pope Urban VIII

1884 – Pope Leo XIII

1920 – Pope Benedict XV

1962 – Pope John XXII

1969 – Pope Paul VI

1975 – Pope Paul VI

2002 – Pope John Paul II

## Revised English Translations

1970 – 1<sup>st</sup> English Edition

1985 – 2<sup>nd</sup> English Edition

2011 – 3<sup>rd</sup> English Edition



Pope Benedict XVI approved the 3<sup>rd</sup> English Edition

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