

“20 Hours with Jesus”

Section III (2021) “Becoming More Like Jesus”

Overview and Instructions

A. “Graces I Seek” in Retreat Section III:

In Retreat Section III a fundamental shift in focus occurs (and continues for the remainder of the retreat). In Sections I and II all of the focus was ***on me ... on my needs***: to be reassured of the Lord’s love for me; on my desire to see and be cleansed from my sin; and on my deep desire to know that God is where I am ... with me in my brokenness, my sinfulness, and my desperate need.

But in Section III the focus now changes **from *me to Him***. (One could say that the “preliminaries” of retreating are now over.) For the remainder of the retreat I’ll look to my future ... focusing specifically on *how I might become more like Jesus* going forward. In Retreat Sections III, IV and V I’ll do that by meditating on the public life, the passion and death and the Resurrection of Jesus, attempting to draw from those meditations a “picture” of what God intends my own future life to look like.

In Retreat Section III ... I reflect upon how I might become more like Jesus in His public life.

Again, I begin this Section by focusing on what Ignatius suggests as the “**Graces**” I ought seek these next four hours.

“Graces I seek” in Section III

-to experience an interior, intimate, personal knowledge of and connection with You Lord. I want to love You more passionately and follow You more closely than I have in years’ past. Especially in this section I want to better understand how Your public life O Lord portends for my own future.

-I just want to be where You are ... I want to totally immerse myself in You: to know You, embracing all that You were during Your time on earth. My deepest desire Lord is to become more like you. As I now focus myself on the ordinariness of Your public life, make clear to me how I might become more like You in my own day-to-day life going forward.

[It is suggested that retreatants might re-read these graces to be sought a number of times while proceeding through the material in this section.]

IMPORTANT:

As you now proceed to seek out the above “Graces” in Retreat Section III, you will have 3 1/2 hours after having viewed the Message. The following materials are provided to help in your reflections, prayers, and meditations, etc.

2 Handout/Exercises

1 “Extra” Handout

A Number of Suggested Scriptures

Move slowly, break-up your meditations, take walks, at times just sit and do nothing, make use of your

B. Handout/Exercises:

Two Handouts/Exercises are provided to assist me in accomplishing (entering into ... experiencing) that which comprises Section III.

Again (as a reminder) everything presented in the retreat materials is “optional.” I am completely free to utilize the material or ignore it. In the end it is God the Holy Spirit Who is my *actual* retreat Director. A key for me on this retreat is that I somehow “connect” with the Spirit ... get a sense for how He would have me spend this time ... and then do just that.

Handout/Exercise III-1: “Becoming More Like Jesus in the Gospel of Luke”

In this Exercise we’ll look at the life of Jesus using our imagination in one of these ways: from the perspective of Luke’s scribe ... or as a casual believer with little previous Biblical knowledge ... or as an A/G minister on his/her first retreat.

Your task: to discover some ways (and inscribe them into your journal) wherein you might better **Become More Like Jesus**.

Handout/Exercise III-2: “Becoming More Like Jesus ... in My Marriage”

Our theme this year is ... **Becoming More Like Jesus** ... and in these free hours yet ahead (using Handout/Exercise **III-1**) we’ll all be able to delve deeply into the public life of Jesus.

But, of course, there’s a huge aspect of most of our lives that Jesus Himself didn’t experience: that being ... **Marriage!** The great majority of you our retreatants are married ... or will be married one day. And we’d be very remiss if we didn’t attempt to consider how we might ... better **Become More Like Jesus** in our married states.

Extra: “Resting + 1 Question”

The third of what we’ll consider this year as we look in depth at 5 ways to better Become More Like Jesus ... is Resting. This Handout incorporates various of the things covered in the section message. At the end we are challenged as to what we believe we are to do about it going forward.

C. Suggested Scriptures:

The only Scriptures suggested this year in Section III are the whole of the Gospel of Luke. (See Handout/Exercise III-1 for directions.)