

## DISCOVERING BIBLIODRAMA

### Participant Handout

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#### Introducing Bibliodrama

Bibliodrama is a vibrant dialogue around Scripture probably unlike any Bible study you have experienced before. Bibliodrama is participatory, improvisational, and interpretive. We will engage the text and interact with God by joining the drama ourselves – stepping into the scene and exploring from within.

- First, we will voice characters at specific moments in the story, each of us having multiple opportunities to speak for each character. We will not act out any entire scene, but rather, we are entering one moment at a time and speaking for one character as if we are in their head at that moment. This is called the “window” because hearing ourselves and others voice a character gives us new windows to look through and see the text.
- Then we will debrief our experience in the text and share personally about what was behind the way we voiced the characters. This is called the “mirror” because we will look at our experience in the text and seeing something of ourselves reflected back. The mirror allows God’s word to examine us so that we can be transformed by our time in Scripture.
- Note: Bibliodrama exposes how accustomed we are to keeping the Bible at arm’s length as we hide behind our thoughts, our study guides and methods, or our impressive insights. Bibliodrama invites us to embody a text – and meet with God together – with our guard down. This requires practice as we grow more comfortable engaging the text this way.

#### Practicing Bibliodrama

##### The Warm-Up

1. Form the community
  - *We always have freedom not to participate or to stop participating and just observe.*
  - *We always have freedom to move and gesture, if we want.*
  - *We are creative players, exploring the scene.*
2. Pray and ask the Spirit to guide us
3. Read the Bible passage aloud
4. Discuss the background and context of the passage
5. Discuss any clarifying questions we have about the text (so we understand the story)

##### The Action

1. Do an interactive activity (to get us moving and using our imagination)
2. Read the Bible passage aloud again
3. Voice “windows” for each moment we have selected (2-3 moments, depending on time)
4. At any point, re-read the passage to help everyone reenter the scene

##### The Review

1. De-role from the characters we have played by reconnecting to the present moment
2. Share our “mirrors” and any invitations we sense from the Lord
3. Pray and thank Jesus for what we have received