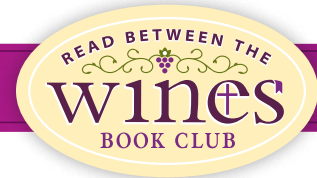




FACILITATOR'S GUIDE



Wisdom from Women in Scripture

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GENERAL INFORMATION: *Wisdom from Women in Scripture* and the *WINE Journal & Study Guide* help women focus on holiness by embracing the words of wisdom from six women of WINE who, through Scripture and stories, lead you on a journey with six women in Sacred Scripture.

Book groups should schedule at least six meetings (90 minutes each) to discuss the book, and **may want to add a final meeting** to “rejoice and recap.” The *Wisdom from Women in Scripture Journal & Study Guide* directs readers through each chapter, providing space to journal insights, record *Lectio Divina* experience, and answer questions in preparation for discussion. (Note: Grouping the Introduction and Chapter 1 in the same session allows the group to meet six times.)

ORGANIZING YOUR GROUP:

- **Schedule** location and rooms to use.
- Decide whether you will offer refreshments and make arrangements as needed.
- Invite participants and ask them to register as Wine Members at CatholicVineyard.com and order the *Wisdom from Women in Scripture* bundle, which includes a book, journal, and bookmark. (*WINE Members receive a discount.*)
- Let participants know that they will need a Catholic Bible.
- Divide participants into groups of **8-12 people**.
- Ask one person per each small group to facilitate discussion.

PREPARING FOR THE FIRST MEETING:

- Familiarize yourself with how to use the *Journal & Study Guide* by **reading pages 1-9** and looking through **Introduction & Chapter 1 on pages 10-21**.
- **Read the Introduction and Chapter 1** of the *Wisdom from Women in Scripture*, using the *Journal & Study Guide* to record your thoughts, insights, and answers.
- Ask participants to do the same.
- Pray for your group members weekly before you meet.

AT YOUR GATHERING

A. Opening and welcome (15 minutes)

1. Welcome everyone and open with prayer.
2. **First week only:**
 - Ask everyone to introduce themselves.
 - **Discuss schedule** and other organizational details as needed. There is room in the *Journal & Study Guide* to write dates, places, and hostess names.
 - Explain what to expect.
 - **Review discussion guidelines:**
3. Create an atmosphere that allows everyone a chance to contribute.
 - a. If you have a lot to share, hold some back until others

have spoken. If you are hesitant to speak, look for opportunities to share.

- b. Listen to others and be respectful of them and their ideas. Try not to interrupt or to hold a private conversation while someone is speaking.
 - c. Stay on topic and answer the questions at hand. Write down other things that come up, to return to if there is time at the end.
 - d. Do your best to come prepared, recognizing that life will happen! If you can't read a chapter, come anyway. Let the group help you not run dry.
4. If personal matters are shared, keep them within the group.

B. Discussion (1 hour)

NOTE: Prepare for small group by reading the chapter assigned for that week and answering the questions in your Journal & Study Guide.

1. Begin with the prayer in the *Journal & Study Guide* that begins the chapter. Ask someone to read the scripture passage assigned for *Lectio Divina*. Discuss insights during *Lectio Divina*.
2. Have member share their favorite **Words of Wisdom** (favorite quotes).
3. Discuss the questions asked in **Growing in Wisdom**. Three questions are from the book, and the last, **Walking in Wisdom**, is new. Allow approximately 10 minutes per question.

C. Close (5 minutes)

1. Ask whether anyone has something else to share.
2. Ask group members to read the upcoming chapter for the next meeting.
3. Close in prayer.

REJOICE & RECAP: WEEK 7

Optional—Schedule a final week for fellowship and to share what has been learned. This is a good time to “chat & chew.” Bring some snacks and enjoy the newly gained wisdom of your friends. *Be sure to offer praise and thanksgiving to God for lessons learned. Be blessed!*