

# ONWARD

from the desk of Chris Greer



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Hey there, . It's Chris! ☺☺

I'll never forget the day James yelled out, "God just spoke to me! Oh my God, he just spoke to me!"

James was a fun, rough around the edges kind of guy. But he was serious about pursuing God with the small, rag-tag bunch of students in the college ministry I led.

A lot of the students I knew longed to know God, but — as is often the case — no one ever taught them how. Some were even starting to wonder if a present, conversant relationship with God was even possible.

So I taught them one of the spiritual practices I'd been learning: how to listen.

**Listening is the very beginning of getting to know anyone, including God.**

James encountered God during a slow, meditative reading of Scripture alongside me and his friends in the college group. It's an ancient Christian practice called *lectio divina*, which means "divine reading" in Latin.

And it's powerful.

So this week's step to getting unstuck — and moving onward with Jesus — is an invitation.

I want you to experience *lectio divina* too...

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## quote of the week

"In contemplation, [the Christian] is simply an open ear to the ever-new word of God."

— Hans Ur Von Balthasar

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The "dog days of summer" can be just as busy and hectic as the rest of the year! (just because the pool is open doesn't mean you're lounging by it!)

So, you're invited to a simple way to slow down and reconnect with God amid the daily madness.

Let's call it Lunch Time Lectio (LTL).

**LTL is a guided (by me!) online experience (via Zoom) of listening to Scripture (through *lectio divina*) that will help you re-center your day and mind on God as you listen *for him and to him.***

Here's the scoop...

- **WHEN:** Thursdays in July - 12pm to 12:45pm
- **WHERE:** Zoom ([click here](#) to receive the link and details)
- **WHO:** Anybody! (I'll cap participation at 15 people! So sign up today)
- **WHY:** We ALL need ways to focus on and listen to God (and it's *great* when someone else guides us!)

Get more details and [grab your spot HERE](#).

Onward,

Chris

P.s. I wrote about [God's silence](#) in the last issue of ONWARD. LTL is a chance to learn to recognize God's voice through his word. [Join us!](#)

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## News and Events

Check it out - A new ONWARD segment! **"News and Events"** will include fun stuff you might like to know about. (Don't worry...your Dad Joke is still included below ☺) Stuff like...

### **"The Gathering" this summer:**

I'm joining my friend, Rhonda Bentley (the women's ministry director at Fellowship North in North Little Rock, AR), to lead four nights of Teaching, Reflection, and Conversation at "The Gathering."

We'll learn to slow down, listen to Jesus, and live with Spiritual Rhythm.

**If you're a woman in the Little Rock area (sorry fellas), please join us!**

**WHEN:** Mondays June 12, July 24 and 31, and August 28 6pm to 8pm

**WHERE:** The Rafters @ 1 E 52nd Pl, North Little Rock, AR 72116

It's going to be a rich time with Jesus.

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## dad joke of the week

My landlord said we need to talk about the heating bill...

"Sure," I said. "My door is always open."

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Did you miss one? Check out past ONWARD posts at [Chris-Greer.com/onward](https://Chris-Greer.com/onward).

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