

## Biblical/Theological Foundations

- Biblical foundations
- Theological foundations
- Theological issues in formational reading

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## Biblical Foundations

- Scripture tells us to mediate on the word.
- Writing God's word on our hearts.
- Receiving spiritual nourishment from Jesus.
- Reading under the guidance of the Spirit.
- Goal is Christlikeness.
- Deepening our relationship with Jesus.
- This will give us something to share.

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## Theological Foundations

- God is relational, the social Trinity.
  - God desires to relate to creation.
  - Prayer draws us into the conversation of the Trinity.
- Scripture records God's self-revelation.
  - Personal as well as propositional.
  - Inspired by the Holy Spirit.
  - Has spiritual authority and integrity.

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## Theological Foundations

- Jesus Christ is the Word of God, the one to whom Scripture points.
  - Perfect expression of God's revelation.
  - Our savior, Lord, and example.
- People were created for relationship.
  - In the image of the social Trinity.
  - Created for intimacy with God.
  - Created with free will.

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## Theological Foundations

- The fall has distorted this image of God.
  - Wounded by our sins and others.
  - Distorted perceptions; old/false self.
- Salvation restores image and relationship.
  - Can experience intimacy with God.
  - Spiritual reading is an instrument of the Spirit in our transformation.
  - We read to "evangelize our lives" (Casey).
- We read within the Christian community.

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## Theological Issues

- What does Casey mean by Scripture as a sacrament?
- Church as sacrament?
  - Body of Christ, Christ's presence among us.
  - We read Scripture within this context.

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## Theological Issues

- What is *sensus plenior*?
  - Fuller sense than even human author knew.
  - Inspired by Holy Spirit.
  - Catholics are more comfortable with this than Protestants.
  - What do you think?

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## Theological Issues

- Medieval *fourfold sense* of Scripture:
  - Literal: historical events, authorial intention.
  - Allegorical: truth about Christ.
  - Moral: ethical instruction.
  - Anagogical: consummation, heaven, eternity.
    - The letter shows us what God and our fathers did.*
    - The allegory shows us where our faith is hid.*
    - The moral meaning gives us rules of daily life.*
    - The anagogy shows us where we end our strife.*

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## Theological Issues

- Fourfold sense as basis for spiritual reading?
- Spiritual meanings not tied to literal sense?
- The literal sense is foundational.

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