How To Use An Endow Study Guide

Read aloud! There are eight chapters in this study guide, broken up into three sections, with discussion questions at the end of each section. Endow Study Guides were written and designed to be read aloud during your Endow meeting—there is no homework! There is a profoundly incarnational experience in hearing the intellectual tradition of our Faith read aloud, similar to hearing the Gospel proclaimed at Mass. Don't be afraid to pause and discuss throughout the material. Be flexible and adaptable as to what is best for your group! It is suggested (but not necessary) to keep the Bible and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* nearby for reference. Enjoy this episode from the Endow Podcast on *Reading Aloud. Thinking Deeply, and Living Well.*

Begin with prayer. Each chapter has an opening and a closing prayer. We recommend starting your group with prayer, calling upon the Holy Spirit to dwell among you and allow your hearts and minds to be open to God's Word in the study guide and one another. Feel free to use these prayers in your personal prayer between Endow meetings as well.

Expect each chapter to consist of a two-hour study session. Every Endow group is unique with regard to pacing, length of meetings, size of group, and amount of conversationalists. If you are the host, you can determine your own expression of apostolic creativity in facilitating. The material in this study guide has been designed to be covered in approximately ten weeks. We recommend leaving enough time to truly savor the material as a group and also make good progress each week. We leave the creative applications of these guidelines to you and the Holy Spirit!

A sample two-hour session:

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7:00 p.m. – Hellos
7:15–7:20 p.m. – Opening Prayer
7:20–7:40 p.m. – Read
7:40–8:00 p.m. – Discuss
8:00 p.m. – Break
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8:10-8:30 p.m. - Read

8:30–8:50 p.m. – Discuss

8:50 p.m. – Closing Prayers/Announcements 9:00 p.m. – Goodbyes

Marian Titles and Gratitude

One way to create bonds in your group is to choose a Marian title to accompany you during this Endow Study. Using the Litany of Loreto, pick a Marian title for each member of your Endow group, and then after the closing prayer each night, pray your own Marian litany by going around the group one by one.

An effective way to transition from social time to study time is to start out by asking each person to share three things she is grateful for from the previous week. Encourage the women to be as concrete as possible.

To aid you in choosing a Marian Title, we have a fun generator on our website. <u>Click</u> here.

Priest Prayer Cards

Praying for priests is one of the key marks of the feminine genius! You should have received a <u>priest prayer card with your Endow Study Guide</u> to encourage your group to pray together. Endow women consider themselves intercessors for all priests, especially those who are closest to us. Some Endow groups invite their priests to come and visit their Endow meetings or ask them to offer a special Mass for their group. You can also call your priest to let him know that you are praying for him, asking if he and the parish have any particular prayer needs/requests. We look to Saint Mary Magdalene, who was given the title "the Apostle to the Apostles," as our model in serving the ministerial priesthood.

For more tips, please refer to the <u>Endow Leadership Guide</u> or contact us.