

# *Settings for Bible Study*

The simple format of Little Rock Scripture Study makes it adaptable to a variety of parish needs. The structures and situations of parishes differ widely, but the central role of Scripture for Catholic life remains constant. Consider the possibilities described for the various settings below.

## **PARISH ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

Little Rock Scripture Study makes use of the most important ingredients for adult learning and formation, and as a result is most often used as a parish-wide program for adults. The setting involves a weekly meeting at the parish facility, with small groups meeting simultaneously in various locations on campus, coming together at the end of the session for the Wrap-Up Lecture. Small group facilitators may plan to come early each week to meet together for their own prayer and to review any potential challenges from the week's lesson.

## **MEETING IN HOMES**

Parishes may choose to have various small groups meet in homes instead of parish facilities. The four elements of the program remain the same though with one small group in a home, it will be a much more casual setting. If there are other Little Rock groups meeting in homes in your parish, it would be helpful to find an occasional time for small group facilitators from these various groups to come together for mutual support and encouragement.

## **SMALL CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES**

The growth of small faith communities in the Church demonstrates the essential need for smaller supportive communities in which faith can be shared and strengthened. Prayerful reflection and discussion of Scripture is the root of these groups throughout the world. Little Rock Scripture Study adapts naturally to this context with the pastoral facilitator of the group guiding the community through prayer and discussion of the lessons.

## **FOLLOW-UP FOR RENEWAL EXPERIENCES**

Scripture study is an ideal way to continue and strengthen such formative experiences as retreats, missions and revivals, seasonal education groups, Christian Initiation, and ministry training. On-going formation will help these experiences to take root in the lives of parishes and individuals. Much of the leadership and group structures formed through such experiences can be continued in Little Rock Scripture Study.