



Developed for the  
Synod of Alberta  
and the Territories  
and adapted for the  
Learning-Leadership  
Development  
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# Council Devotions

## Prayer

**Read at Matthew 14:22, 23**

**Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone...**

**Ponder:** [In pairs or in groups of 3, discuss what you hear from the reading.]

What might leaders need to do from time to time? When? Where?

Where should your council go to pray? When?

**Summarize:** [Hear from the other groups.]

**Pray:**

**‘P’ – praise** the qualities of Christ.

[You may include grace, mercy, forgiveness, healing ...]

**‘R’ – remember** the things God has given you.

[Prayer, salvation, life, fellowship, solitude ...]

**‘A’ – ask** for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your deliberations.

[Include those items under consideration at this meeting.]

**‘Y’ – yield** to God’s will.

[Not my will, but yours be done.]

This devotional outline is intended to help you create your own opening devotion for your council meeting. The focus is on some aspect of leadership. It should promote discussion about Jesus and how he worked with his followers. Devotions in this style encourage council members to share their thinking about the role of leadership. This is a guide only and should be adapted to the time available and to your group. This opening devotion may take 5 – 10 minutes to conduct, but it will take a little preparation on your part.