

Iona Method

This method is for groups with up to 10 members who have already developed good skills at observation. It is similar to the Swedish method but does not provide framework for observation.

What you will need

- *The leader must be properly prepared to ensure the passage is fully understood.*
- *The passage should be reproduced on sheets of paper to allow notes to be made and questions recorded.*

- **Pray**
- **Read Passage silently** – (for up to 10 minutes)
Consider what significance the passage seems to have. Make notes of any unclear or perplexing parts of the passage.
- **Sharing** - sharing together after the silent reading and noting
Each member in succession is invited to share briefly any thoughts arising from the passage. The whole group are encouraged to keep a brief record of comments or questions raised. It is important that all members of the group have an opportunity to comment on the passage before general discussion begins. *(Each person is given opportunity to speak or not to speak as desired – however there should be an encouraging climate to promote sharing.)*
- **General Discussion** – guided by the comments and questions raised.
- **Conclusion and summing up by the leader** checking that the three questions have been answered.

What does the text say?
What does the text mean?
How do we respond to the text?

- **Conclude in prayer**