

## V. SCRIPTURAL RESOURCES



*Your word is a lamp unto my feet, a light for my path.*  
Psalm 119:105

*Oh, that today you would hear his voice: Harden not your hearts.*  
Psalm 95:11

*Sacred Scripture is the speech of God as it is put down in writing  
under the breath of the Holy Spirit.*  
CCC #81

### **A. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SCRIPTURE SHARING AND BIBLE STUDY**

The choice between scripture sharing or bible study is challenging. *Scripture sharing* is essentially a matter of the heart and faith. It offers more freedom and encouragement to share spontaneously and a setting in which to learn, nourish and test new behaviors with a developing and living faith. Here, the essential elements of faith-sharing (prayer, sharing, mutual support, learning, and mission) that build SCCs are in balance. *In this regard, scripture sharing is more like faith-sharing with the lectionary and even lectio divina (read, pray, mediate, contemplate, and incarnate). The real difference is that scripture sharing focuses on a particular book of the bible whereas faith-sharing most often dwells on selected passages or those designated during the liturgical year.*

*Bible study* is crucial to our growth as Christians, and knowledge surely nourishes our faith and, yes, faith-sharing. However, it focuses more often on the intellect than the heart, which is the essence of faith sharing. Serious bible study is more appropriate to home study or classroom activity than to the faith sharing experience. Some studies combine *lectio* and/or faith sharing as integral, but the concern remains. New directions are fine but they must foster a faith-sharing mode if we plan to build SCCs and faith-sharing communities.