

It was my pleasure to attend the spiritual exercises, 30 weeks of Ignatian contemplation of Scripture. Actually, it was not a blessing and pleasure for the whole 30 weeks. After the first two weeks I was going to quit, feeling that I was in over my head. I told my group that I was really having a hard time and thought it was too much for me. They encouraged me to stick with it, and so I prayed on it, and took to heart some hints they gave me. Remarkably, from the third week on, the Exercises became a spiritual walk where I grew in my knowledge of Christ in a much more personal way. If I had followed my plan and left, it would have been a devastating loss for my growth in Christ. I would never have known him in such a loving and personal way, and Scripture would not be as alive to me as it is now. 40 minutes of prayer and Scripture a day, and getting up every Saturday morning to be there by 8, all this was not me, but after my heart was changed, 40 minutes of prayer and Scripture became an hour or more. I looked forward to Saturday mornings and hated to see the coming of the 30th week. If you think you might want to do this walk, try it. Talk to God about it. He is listening. Don't listen to yourself, listen to him. I found out that he knows better than I do. God bless.



