



STUDY FIRST OF ALL

THE *LECTIO*

OF THE DIVINE

SCRIPTURES

Study them, I say.

For we need to study the divine writings deeply...
and while you study these divine works with a believing and
God-pleasing intention, knock at that which is closed in them
and it shall be opened to you by the porter, of whom Jesus
says, "To him the gatekeeper opens".

While you attend to this *lectio divina*, seek aright and with
unwavering faith in God the hidden sense which is present
in most passages of the divine Scriptures.

And do not be content with knocking and seeking,
for what is absolutely necessary for understanding divine
things is *oratio*,

and in urging us to this the Saviour says
not only "knock and it will be opened to you",
and "seek and you will find",
but also "ask and it will be given you" (Ep. Gr.4).

Letter to Gregory, Origene