



DISCERNMENT

(From Listening to Action)

Return to the larger group

Each small group is invited to share briefly their “We” perspective, focusing on what they sense the Holy Spirit is inviting them to.

Together as a BEC, identify a simple “Move to Action,” to help the Word take root in daily life.

For example:

- As individuals, to listen more attentively to young people and take their concerns seriously.
- As a community, to involve young people more intentionally in discernment and planning.
- As a BEC, to accompany and support young people in their faith journey and mission.

Intercessory Prayer

Facilitator invites all to voice short intentions, for example:

“Lord, help me to ... ”

Response: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Conclude with the Lord’s Prayer, the Glory Be, and the Sign of Peace.

Closing Hymn:

An appropriate hymn may be sung or played



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INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY

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BECReflection

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

A People for Missionary Discipleship

MONTHLY FOCUS
& RATIONALE

**SOCIETY: YOUTH
EMPOWERMENT**



Conversion of Relationships Across Generations

Young people are not only the future of the Church. They are part of the Church today. Youth comprise people at different stages of life, from teenagers to young adults, each with different experiences, responsibilities, and challenges. For this reason, youth empowerment cannot be approached in a blanket way.

Empowerment in the Church does not mean giving power without responsibility, nor does it mean leaving young people to manage on their own. It means recognising their dignity, listening to their voices, and including them meaningfully in discernment and decision-making.

In a synodal Church, youth empowerment is rooted in shared mission. Young people are fellow disciples and co-responsible partners in evangelisation, called to contribute according to their gifts and stages of life. Empowerment grows when trust is given, accompaniment is offered, and space is created for participation.

This month, we reflect on how our communities can acknowledge, accompany, and empower young people to live their faith actively and to share in building the Kingdom of God.

ENCOUNTERING

Opening Hymn

Suggestion:

Here I Am, Lord

or another familiar hymn on calling, mission, and discipleship.

Opening Prayer

Loving God,
You call people of every age
to follow You
and to share in the mission of
Your Church.

We thank You for the gift of
young people in our
community.

Help young people to continue
to grow in faith, confidence,
and responsibility,
Help our community to walk
with them in mutual respect
and hope.

May we journey together
as one Body,
faithful to Your call and
generous in service.

We ask this through Christ our
Lord. Amen.



Pastoral Pathway

Youth empowerment begins with recognition. Young people are not merely helpers or future leaders, but members of the Church whose voices matter now. Empowerment grows when they are taken seriously and included in conversations that shape the life and mission of the community.

Empowerment also requires accompaniment. Different stages of youth, call for different forms of support. Teenagers, young adults, and those entering adulthood face different questions and responsibilities. Walking with them means guiding without controlling, encouraging without dominating, and allowing space for growth and learning.

In a synodal Church, empowerment is always linked to mission. Young people are invited to share responsibility for evangelisation, service, and witness, each according to their gifts. When trust is given and participation is real, young people can grow as confident disciples and co-workers in building the Kingdom of God.

SCRIPTURE

1 Timothy 4:12

“Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.”

Pause for a moment of prayerful silence to reflect on this text in light of the place of young people in the Church today.

DIALOGUING

(Conversation in the Spirit)

Question for Conversation in the Spirit:

How is the Holy Spirit inviting us to empower young people more intentionally in our community and mission?

Form small groups of 4 to 6 persons. Follow the three rounds of sharing. Keep one minute of silence between each sharing.

Round 1 – “I” Perspective (Come prepared from time of silence. All are invited to share but only once for less than two minutes. No commenting on the sharing of others)

- What resonated most with you? What is challenging for you? What inspired you?

(Thank each person after their sharing and observe 1 minute of silence before the next person continues)

Round 2 – “You and I” Perspective

(Now participants are invited to respond to the sharing of another. Each person shares once, responding to something they heard another member share)

After hearing others:

- What resonated most with you? What is challenging for you? What inspired you?

(Thank each person after their sharing and observe 1 minute of silence before the next person continues)

Round 3 – “We” Perspective (Now the facilitator or leader invites all to come to a common consensus or agreement on what was shared)

Facilitator may begin by saying...

- ...after listening to everyone, what is the Holy Spirit...

(Thank each person after their sharing and observe 1 minute of silence before the next person continues)