

DISCERNMENT

(From Listening to Action)

Return to the larger group

Each small group briefly shares their “We” perspective, focusing on how they sense the Holy Spirit inviting them to respond.

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

For example:

- As a BEC, to be more outward- looking and identify those whom God might be calling us to notice, invite or accompany.

Intercessory Prayer

Facilitator invites all to voice short intentions, for example:

- “Lord, help us to build bridges through dialogue, respect, and love, so that our unity may reflect the harmony of Your Kingdom.”
- Lord, strengthen us when we struggle to accept differences, and soften our hearts when we are tempted to be judgemental.

Response: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Closing Prayer

Conclude with:

- The Lord’s Prayer
- The Glory Be
- The Sign of Peace



Closing Hymn:

We Are One Body *(by Dana Scallon)*

Chorus:

*We are one body, one body in Christ;
and we do not stand alone.*

*We are one body, one body in Christ;
and he came that we might have life.*

I will live in you and you will live in my love.

When you eat my body and you drink my blood,
I will live in you and you will live in my love. **(C)**

Will you feed my hungry,
will you help my lame?
See the unborn baby,
the forgotten one,
they are not forsaken,
they are not unloved. **(C)**

I am the Way, the Truth, the Life;
he who believes in me
will have eternal life.
I am the Way, the Truth, the Life,
I am the Final Sacrifice,
I am the Way, the Truth, the Life;
he who believes in me
will have eternal life. **(C)**

<https://share.google/0sDdCwb5xeKLg2ZT>

BECReflection

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

A People for Missionary Discipleship

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE: SOCIETY: UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Society in Malaysia is marked by a rich unity in diversity, where different cultures, languages, and traditions co-exist as part of a shared national and ecclesial life. From a pastoral perspective, this diversity is not a challenge to be managed but a gift to be nurtured through intentional bridge-building. The Church is called to foster genuine dialogue that moves beyond polite co-existence to real encounter, where differences are not feared but received with respect and openness. This also means creating opportunities for collaboration in shared projects that promote the common good, especially in areas such as education, social outreach, environmental care, and support for the vulnerable. Equally important is the creation of safe and inclusive spaces where every culture is respected and every voice is heard.



ENCOUNTERING

Opening Hymn

The Family Song

(by the Asidors)

Come and fill our homes with Your presence
You alone are worthy of our reverence

Chorus:

**As for me and my house, we will
serve the Lord**

**As for me and my house, we will
serve the Lord**

We will serve the Lord

Lord we vow to live holy
Bowling our knees to You only **(C)**

Staying together, praying together
Any storm we can weather
Trusting in God's Word **(C)**

<https://youtu.be/VVcDYL4gsic?si=jjdC6Stm5rTdkSUG>

Opening Prayer

(Let us place ourselves in the presence of
God and open our hearts to His Spirit.)

Holy Spirit, who formed us into one
Body through Baptism, unite us in
love and truth. Teach us to walk
together in unity, not ahead of
others or apart from them.
As St Paul reminds us, we are many
members yet one Body in Christ.
Help us to honour the diversity of
gifts, cultures, and voices You have
given us. May we listen deeply and
journey together in harmony as one
people of God. Amen.

Pastoral Pathway

Our BEC gatherings are not about
organising programmes. They are the
Church in miniature—faces, names,
wounds, gifts, differences. They are
about us. Yet even within small groups,
tensions arise: personality clashes,
generational gaps, cultural differences,
fatigue, misunderstandings. But let us
view these differences as “healthy
tensions.” St Paul reminds us that no part
of the body exists for itself. True unity
does not erase differences; it redeems it.

The Church does not fear diversity; it
depends and flourishes on it through
the power of the Holy Spirit. Unity is
not necessarily uniformity. It is
communion in Christ, held together by
the Holy Spirit and one baptism. When
diversity is welcomed, the Church
becomes credible.

In our parish and BEC context, some are
leaders, others serve quietly; some
teach, some visit the sick; some speak
boldly, others intercede silently. St Paul
reminds us that no part of the body
exists for itself. Conversion of
relationships means learning to listen
before judging, choosing reconciliation
over resentment, and seeing others not
as obstacles, but as members of the
same Body. Let us not allow ourselves to
become inward looking circles of
comfort. As relationships are healed and
unity deepens, the Holy Spirit naturally
inspires us outwards—towards the
neighbour who feels forgotten, towards
families on the margins, and towards
those who no longer come to church.

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12: 12-13

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Pause for a moment of prayerful silence to reflect on the above Scripture text and on the below question:

- Do I truly listen and value the gifts of others, especially when they think or act differently from me?

DIALOGUING

(Conversation in the Spirit)

Form small groups of 4 to 6 persons. Observe one minute of silence between each round of sharing.

Round 1 – “I” Perspective

All are invited to share once only, for less than two minutes.
(No comments on others' sharing.)

What personal habits or attitudes am I being called to change, to respect and accept the diversity around me in order to foster unity?

(Thank each person after sharing. Observe one minute of silence.)

Round 2 – “You and I” Perspective

Participants respond to something they heard from another.

After hearing others:

- What struck me from what others shared?
- Where do I see common struggles or shared hopes?

(Observe one minute of silence.)

Round 3 – “We” Perspective

The facilitator invites the group to discern together.

What is the Holy Spirit saying to our BEC about unity in diversity, and how can we become bridge-builders in our community?

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