

Clearness Process for Discerning Gifts and Ministry

Note – Although this process chart reads as a set of linear steps, the reality is that the Spirit usually does not move in a linear fashion. While there is no way for us to predict or perfectly map the movement of the Spirit in an individual’s life, this is a general process for how one might engage with one’s meeting in being faithful to a leading to travel in the ministry.

**A
Nudge from
Spirit?
Listen, Pray**

You sense that the Spirit is inviting you into deeper faithfulness which might include a particular action or way of living. Listen and pray, waiting on the Spirit for this leading to become clearer.

As you become gradually clearer within yourself, it can be helpful to test it with a few F/friends informally, asking for clear, gentle feedback.

**Ask
for
Clearness
Committee**

The leading or concern becomes clearer/ more focused. You write to Ministry & Counsel (Worship & Ministry, Ministry and Oversight), asking for a clearness committee under the care of the meeting.

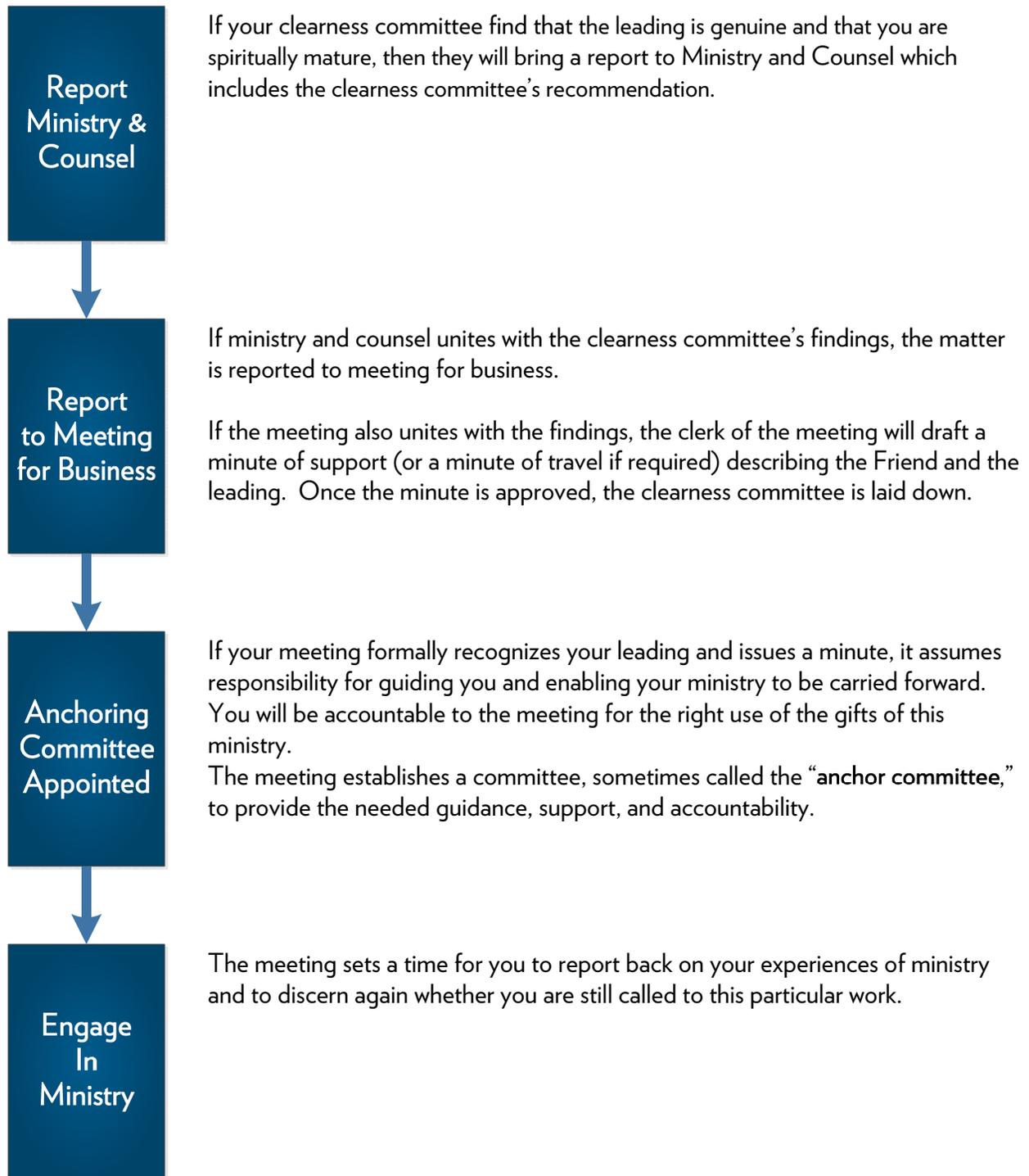
Clearness committee: group of individuals who meet with a person to help him/her reach clarity around a decision, or to test a leading through worship together, listening and asking insightful questions.

**Clearness
Committee
Meets**

The clearness committee will help you find clarity in whether you should move forward with the matter, wait, or take other action. They will:

- Worship with you
- Listen tenderly to the questions & concerns you have
- Ask you careful, open-ended questions to help define what you are feeling called to do
- Reflect back what they have heard
- Discern whether your ministry should be supported by the meeting

The goal of the clearness process is not to reach any particular outcome, but to discern whether there is clarity on a matter and if there is clarity, where it lies.



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