

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.



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.



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.



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



Report
to
Ministry &
Counsel

If your clearness committee find that the leading is genuine and that you are spiritually mature, then they will bring a minute to Ministry and Counsel which includes the clearness committee's recommendation.

Report
to Meeting
for Business

If ministry and counsel unites with the clearness committee's findings, the matter is forwarded to meeting for business.

If the meeting also unites with the findings, the clerk of the meeting will draft a minute of support describing the Friend and the leading. Once the minute is approved, the clearness committee is laid down.

Appoint
Anchoring
Committee

If your meeting formally recognizes your leading and issues a minute, it assumes responsibility for guiding you and enabling your ministry to be carried forward. You will be accountable to the meeting for the right use of the gifts of this ministry.

The meeting establishes a committee, sometimes called the "anchor committee," to provide the needed guidance, support, and accountability.

Engage
In
Ministry

You may be asked to speak about your experiences to the meeting.

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