

DISCERNMENT IN COMMON - EXERCISE

A DEEPER DISCERNMENT OF THE LORD'S CALL

Note: For this exercise you will need to read the “input” document first

Finding the right question

Take some time (days if necessary) to reflect if there is a relevant need in your institution/unit at the moment. Something that might require a structured process for communal discernment. Amongst these it might be that you want to launch an strategic/apostolic plan, or that you might need to consider opening/closing an important work/department, or maybe you are thinking on dealing with complicated issues related to safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, or about finances, etc. The object of discernment has to be sufficiently significant for the investment of energy to be sensible.

Following the steps of those that preceded us

See the 4 steps proposed in the input section and start a discernment process. The steps were:

- Preparing the group (more information at: [Link](#))
- Data Gathering (more information at: [Link](#))
- Discussion and provisional decision (more information at: [Link](#))
- Decision and Action (more information at: [Link](#))

FROM REFLECTION TO ACTION

Reflection

"Discernment must be at the basis of all that is Jesuit" (GC 36, Mission decree)

- What can this mean for organisations?
- What can this mean for leaders of SJ organisations?
- What have been your positive and negative experiences of discernment in common?

Action

Review your past experiences of discernment in common with people with whom you did the process with. Look at the steps mentioned above and try to determine where you did a good job and where you could have done it better.

ADDITIONAL EXERCISES

The famous movie “[Of Gods and Men](#)” includes a good example of discernment in common. Watch it and while they are discerning if they should stay or leave follow the steps you have been presented in this document. What connections do you see?