

Week 5 – Discernment for TVBF

Purpose – to review what we have discussed and consider the next steps.

The questions this week are based on the five recommendations Ruth makes in her final video. Please feed any ideas or reflections back to Stuart.

1) What, if anything, has stood out to you from the last four studies? (The titles were: 'Experience of discernment', 'This body life', 'Six marks of discernment', and 'Practical wisdom'.)

2) How confident do you feel about the teaching of the 'priesthood of all believers'?

3) What do you understand the 'priesthood of all believers' to mean for your participation in the Church Meeting?

4) Has learning about this 'slow wisdom' model of discernment changed your understanding of the purpose of the Church Meeting at all?

5) Does the timing of our Church Meeting (a Thursday evening every other month) help the most members attend? Are there any changes we could make to the practicalities (timing, location, set up…) that would make it accessible to more people?

6) For group members who never go to the Church Meeting, why not? Is there anything that could be changed to make you more likely to attend?

7) We often have discussions in groups around the tables as part of the Church Meeting. What are the positives of this? What are the negatives?

8) One reason for having small groups is to enable us to hear from people who don't like to speak out in front of the whole group. How can we best ensure that prophetic wisdom shared in these groups is relayed to the whole Church Meeting?

9) How do you think we are doing with balancing 'strategic' and 'missional' agenda items at the Church Meeting? Is there anything we need to change?

10) Is there anything else you would like to feed back to Stuart?

11) Read 1 Corinthians 1:10. What does Paul want for the believers in Corinth and for us today?

12) Read 1 Corinthians 2:11-12, 16 and John 17:22-23. How has God equipped us to achieve this?

13) Pray for TVBF, that we would be increasingly characterised by these things, and that we would grow in discerning God's will together.