

STARTING POINT



We understand
the SMPGoals
but are not
sure where
to start with
implementation

SCENARIO

STARTING POINT:

We understand the SMPGoals but are not sure where to start with Implementation

We give God space in our thinking, searching and conversation, allowing the Holy Spirit to prompt and lead us to select the SMPGoals to focus on. For that to happen we need to ... **slow down**.



SUGGESTED STEPS

1. **Initial Conversation in the Spirit** (See p.7) about:
Which SMPGoals should we focus on at this time?
Refer to the SMPGoals on p.5 and Factors to Consider on p.4
2. **In light of what was heard above, group members then work individually or in pairs** on proposing up to three SMPGoals they consider to be important to work on first, and WHY. We can use p.6 as a Worksheet or develop our own.
3. **A 2nd Conversation in the Spirit** shares what each person/pair has come up with: **Identify the standout SMPGoals** to take into planning mode: synodal decision-making process, if needed.



✓ **Achievement:** The SMPGoals to focus on in our first Plan are ...

- ...
- ...
- ...



Looking ahead: We are ready for the next step → moving into planning. **See the SCENARIO 3**

RESOURCES for Scenario 2

SCENARIO

2

Where possible, separate these sessions

A week apart works well – not too far apart and not too close. Also, these could be done in one longer block of time, a day or half-day or 3-hour session.

Across Segments 1 to 3 the focus moves from:

1. **All in a Conversation in the Spirit to** see what SMPGoals initially come to the fore ...
Use the Conversation in the Spirit process on p18.

to

2. **Individuals/pairs** doing further work ...
As individuals or in pairs, take what SMPGoals emerged from the group Conversation in the Spirit, and propose up to three SMPGoals to focus on in the first implementation plan. Outline reasons for the proposal.
See p.6 for worksheets to stimulate thinking.

back to

3. **All in a 2nd Group Conversation in the Spirit,** to hear the further wisdom that emerges from the work as individuals or pairs.
Use the same process from p.7 but allow one person to speak on behalf of any pair.

What SMPGoals are standing out in the discernment?

In light of the **synodal decision-making process** (Overview Leaflet p.13) recommend to the Pastor the SMPGoals to focus on in the first plan.

The Pastor takes the decision in light of the consultation

He outlines the SMPGoals to be the focus of the first plan and the reasons.

The Parish is given the WHAT and WHY about the SMPGoals selected for initial planning and action, with pointers to broader parish engagement in the planning and implementation steps.

Factors to consider when discerning Goals to act on first ...

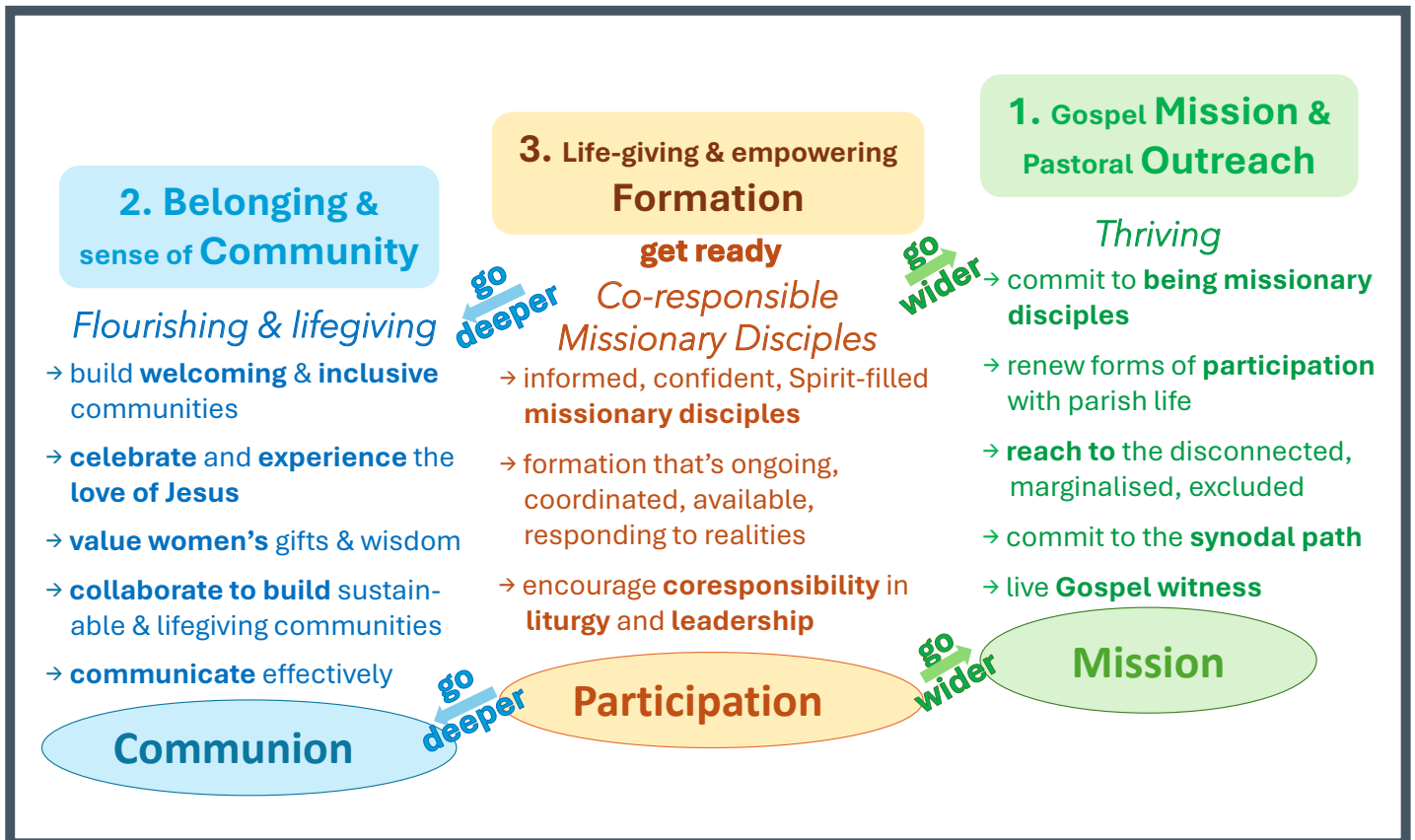
- **Jesus' call** into Co-mission with him here and the **Holy Spirit's prompting**; what are we being called to do?
- **Strengths/Passion/Energy/Opportunities** in the parish now.
- **Leadership and knowledge** required to move in the direction identified; leader + group – we can implement as much as we have leaders for.
- **Means:** What \$ costs, resources and people are needed?
- **Strategic move** which opens the way for other things (like a flotilla of boats with one leading others; or one cog linked to and turning others).
- Option: Look to a **'quick win'** and a **more involved strategy**, each an **intentional** part of a bigger vision.
- Is there a Goal for which **planning needs to be held** until something else is in place first?



Sandhurst Strategic Mission and Pastoral Goals in Strategic Directions

SCENARIO

2



WHAT Goals
(up to three) do I see as
best to work on first,
and WHY?

Are there some of the other SMPGoals that will also be engaged if we focus on the Goals above? Which one/s?

Conversation in the Spirit

Scripture: Acts of the Apostles Ch. 15 tells the story of much debate amongst the apostles and church elders in Jerusalem, meeting in Council about whether or not the Jewish Law (of Moses) applied to non-Jewish converts. Some Christians, who were Pharisees, said an emphatic 'yes'. Others disagreed just as strongly: Peter spoke, Paul and Barnabas spoke, and James 'brother of the Lord', spoke. *'The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles'*(Acts 15:12). The decision reached was: no, the Gentiles were not required to keep the Mosaic Law because they were saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ just as they themselves were (Acts 15:11). A letter was sent by the Council to Gentile Christians. It said: *'For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to impose on you no further burden ...'*(Acts 15:28).

Note in this passage the dynamic interplay between speaking, listening, the Holy Spirit and making a decision. These are the ingredients and fruits of a Conversation in the Spirit within a larger discernment and decision-making process.

Undertake the following Conversation in light of the above passage from Acts 15.

Scenario 2 Question:

Which SMPGoals should we focus on at this time?

Commence with a period of silence for pondering on both how the early Church grappled with complex questions and what SMPGoals we might act on first (see Goals on p.33).

First Round of Conversation: Moving clockwise around the group, each person (or pair in the 2nd Conversation) has a chance to speak (up to 3 min.) about the SMPGoals to focus on at this time, after which there is a time of silence for reflection before the next person speaks. There is no discussion in this Round.

Second Round of Conversation: We each share what struck us most from the First Round and/or what moved in us during the times of silence. A pause for reflection follows after each person has spoken. There is no discussion in this Round.

Third Round of Conversation: Finally, as moved to speak, we each share what has emerged as significant for us from the preceding two rounds. What new insights have arisen, what common themes and fruits were evident? We can speak in any order and respond to one another, seek clarification, ask questions ...

Having opened up the Question in the 1st Conversation in the Spirit, and after a period of **working in pairs or individually** on proposing the WHAT and WHY of up to three SMPGoals to act on at this time, the group **returns for the 2nd Conversation in the Spirit to share the fruits** of that work, using the same three round pattern.

Can we now propose up to three SMPGoals to act on at this time?

Can we further assist the Pastor to take the decision?



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