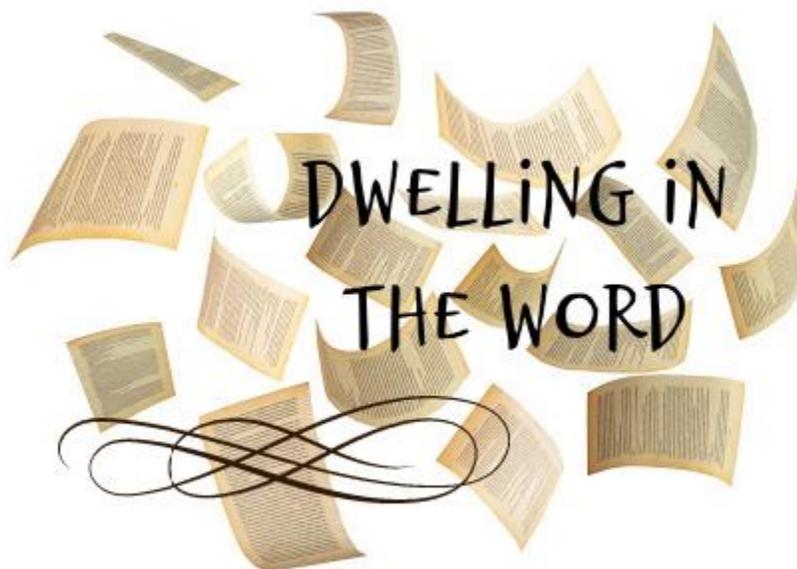


Dwelling in the Word for the Discernment Event

Philippians 1:27; 2:5-11

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel....

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Steps for Dwelling in the Word for the Discernment Event

Distribute Bibles or the Words to Philippians 1:27; 2:5-11.

Make sure you set aside at least 20 minutes for this activity. Begin with reading the passage. Then allow some silence to unfold as people let the words have their impact.

After the brief silence, each person finds a reasonably friendly-looking stranger to share what they heard and to listen to what the other person heard. Begin by asking the stranger to share what picture or question popped up or where their imagination was caught as the passage was read. Each takes time to listen to one another well enough to report what the other has said. Make sure to exchange names and something about oneself, so that each can introduce the other during the reporting.

Allow time (6 to 10 minutes) for people to talk with their reasonably friendly-looking stranger.

The pairs return to the larger group and introduce their partners and share what they heard from each another.

The leader makes sure that everyone has been introduced and has shared what was heard and spoke.

Then let the group discuss throughout the meeting what God might be up to in the passage for your group on that day.