



SHARED WISDOM

When Two or Three are Gathered in My Name, There I am in the Midst of You

Whenever you come together, I am with you.

When you come together to break bread, to pray, and to be and to build church, Jesus is with you.

My Spirit will be with you always

To each, the Lord gives a piece of the wisdom. No one does he give all the wisdom of God. We all get different pieces.

The call of Vatican II

Church belongs to the baptised
Church is the responsibility of the baptised.

Theology

Our God is the God of the Gathering
Our God is present to us in many ways
Our God is present to us in one another

Implications

We must share our wisdom
We must hear, respect, and treasure one another's wisdom.
We must work for a climate that is open and respectful.

Stances

We must be open to new ways of thinking and feeling
We must be open to information and data collected by others.
We must be willing to let go of the need to control.
We must be willing to let go of the need to win
We must be willing to let go of the need to be always right.
We must be willing to leave the familiar and risk the unfamiliar.

Spirituality

We must give an obedient response to the Spirit.
We must be willing to process life by ...
 setting aside prime time to spend with the Lord
 finding God space in which to be alone with God
 using an appropriate method for communicating with God

Leadership

A pastoral leader is
 the spiritual leader
 the ecclesial leader
 a member of the group

A group leader

- empowers the members
- enables the process
- confronts dysfunctional behaviour kindly, clearly and consistently

QUOTATIONS FOR REFLECTION:

Gal 5:13-15 ... you were called to be free ... be servants to one another in love ...

Eph 4:11-13 ... [Jesus'] gift was ... to knit God's holy people together for the work of service to build up the Body of Christ.

Rom 12:3-13 ... In the service of the Lord, work not half-heartedly, but with .. an eager spirit .. look for opportunities to be hospitable.

Col 3:23-25 ... Whatever your work is, put your heart into it .. it is Christ the Lord that you are serving.

Mt 23:1-12 ... Anyone who raised himself up will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be raised up.

Lk 17:7-10 ... when you have done all you have been told to do, say ... 'We have done no more than our duty.'

Lk 22:24-27 ... the greatest among you must behave as if he were the youngest ... here am I among you as one who serves!

PRAYER

I, Wisdom, am with you.

I am a light that will never grow dim.

Love me and you will see me.

Look for me and you will find me.

In fact, at the slightest indication of your desire for me

I will make myself known to you.

**Watch for me at the very start of what you are about
not just when things get difficult or confusing**

**Be alert to me always
and you will avoid a lot of trouble**

**You will find me, ever present, sitting
at your conference tables and in your staff meetings**

**Just thinking about my presence will help you
to develop a maturity of thought and understanding**

**Be aware of my presence and my concern,
my willingness to inspire and to instruct you
and you will be amazed at how much you will decrease your own
and everyone else's anxiety level**

**I journey with you and work through you
but also through and in those people
you come together with to be and to build church.**

As you meet with each other

I will meet with you and all of you!

[Wisdom 6:12-17]