

- Central Question: What does it mean to “journey together” in announcing the Gospel? What does it look like (could it look like) in your local church?

1. LISTENING

- To follow Jesus, we must first be able to hear His call in our lives. This requires that we listen and have hearts that are open to Him.
- What makes it easier to listen for the voice of Jesus, and what makes it harder?
- How is God speaking to us through voices we sometimes ignore?
- God also speaks to others through you. Do you feel that the leaders in the Church are listening to the laity, especially women and young people? If so, how? If not, how can that change?
- What space is there in your local church for the voice of minorities, especially people who experience poverty, marginalization, or social exclusion?
- How can we better listen to Jesus through our sisters and brothers on the peripheries?

2. CELEBRATION

- “Walking together” is only possible if it is based on communal listening to the Word and the celebration of the Eucharist.
- How does our experience of praying together, especially in the Mass and other liturgies, guide our lives?
- How do they inspire the most important decisions?
- How do we promote the active participation of all the faithful in the liturgy?
- What space is given to participating in the ministries of lector and acolyte?

3. SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR COMMON MISSION

- What hinders the baptized from being active in mission?
- What areas of mission are we neglecting?

4. AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION

- Does our local Church community effectively identify the areas of mission that Jesus is calling to, and do we act together in these areas?
- How is authority or governance exercised within our local Church?
- How do we work together as a Church?
- How are evaluations conducted and by whom?
- How are lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people promoted?
- How do synodal bodies function at the level of the local Church (Pastoral Councils in parishes and dioceses, Presbyteral Council, etc.)?

- How can we foster a more synodal approach in our participation and leadership? (A synodal approach is one that is local, collaborative and discerned together as a community.)

5. DISCERNING AND DECIDING

- In a synodal style, we make decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community.
- What methods and processes do we use in decision-making?
- How can they be improved?

6. FORMING OURSELVES IN SYNODALITY

- How does our church community form people to be more capable of “walking together,” listening to one another, participating in mission, and engaging in dialogue?
- What formation is offered to foster discernment and the exercise of authority in a synodal way? How can this be improved?