



# MISSION DISCERNMENT

## You've got questions ?

### Religious Missionary Life

#### Questions

**How do I know that God is calling me?**

**Where do I fit in?**

**Which Church Vocation and Ministry is best for me?**

There are seven indicators that can help a young person to feel at home in religious and missionary life. As you read them, listen to your heart. What does it tell you? Remember, these are just indicators, not characteristics that you need to possess in order to start considering a life vocation in mission.

You might have some strong indicators, while others need more attention on your part. Don't be discouraged. No one wants to see perfection. Even saints were not perfect.

#### **1 - A Sensitivity to Others:**

This is the kind of person who stands up for others, who wants to be helpful to others, who refuses to allow people to bully others, who sense when people are depressed or in a low mood and tries to lift them up.

#### **2 - Attraction to groups dealing with Human Needs:**

People drawn to religious and missionary life are often drawn to efforts like working among and with the poor, the homeless, the lonely, the forgotten, the refugees, the migrants, etc.

#### **3 - Idealism:**

Many young people express their ideals in areas like peace and justice and a better world. We need to nurture these values and longings present in us so that they may become our driving force.

#### **4 - Leadership:**

People who work well with others, who enjoy being in charge, carrying out responsibilities, and who have natural leadership talents. Contrary to the old image of the quiet, pious follower ready-made for

religious life, our Church and world today need leadership-oriented young people, a leadership that is perceived as service, collaboration, and teamwork.

**5 - Creativity:**

People who appreciate music, drama, and the other arts. The church needs creative people in their ministry in order to touch people's lives in new ways.

**6 - Orientation toward People:**

Being able to enjoy people and friendships, chatting, working, sharing their day-to-day experiences... because they care and they want to grow together, not in isolation.

**7 - Search for the Meaning in Life:**

We could also describe this quality as that of being faith-filled, but this quality sometimes scares us, for we don't see ourselves as "holy." However, all of us (in our personal vocations in life) are involved in an ongoing search for a deeper relationship with God

**"May all peoples come to know Jesus Christ, whom You sent, Your Son and our companion."**



*"I am Jesus... Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what you must do." [by Antonella del Grosso, xmm]*