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# COMMITTEE STUDY

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OCTOBER

## Prayer

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Gracious God, thank you for calling us to serve you,  
and to lead a congregation for those so in need of your love and grace.  
You've called us to be a place where people can live in love,  
and where people can experience your presence.  
So be with us as we make decisions tonight.  
Help us to seek your wisdom over mere human wisdom,  
your logic over common logic,  
and your guidance over the guidance of convention and convenience.  
Help us to be your servants serving collaboratively and cooperatively,  
seeking unity of heart and mind,  
so that we can lead our church with your guidance, grace, and love. Amen

## David Steindl-Rast, *Faith beyond Belief*

In my own experience I have discovered three questions I have to ask myself when I don't know what I ought to do, whether it be a small decision or a really big one.

The first thing I ask myself is: What would make me happy? That brings out what is unique and best in me...

The second question (within the framework of what would make me truly happy): What are my gifts? It is amazing that people often want to do something for which they really have no gift...

Then comes the third and most important question: What does life offer me? And here my calling comes into play. Life calls out to me, offers me this opportunity that I have to seize by the forelock. My co-operation with what this mysterious, always surprising life offers me from moment to moment—it depends on that.



## Discussion Questions:

- What questions do we typically ask when we don't know what we ought to do, and how do our questions fit with Steindl-Rast's suggestions?
- How can we lead the church to ask more what would create happiness in the church, what are our gifts, and what are the opportunities before us?