

*“Those who accompany spiritual development need to be able to ‘let God do the work’.”*

Allowing ‘the creator to deal with the creature’ is challenging and demanding. How do you give time to reflect on the degree to which you are able to do this, and examine the inner tendencies to ‘fix’, ‘control’ or otherwise get in the way?

In what ways might those involved better support each other in seeking to ‘let God do the work’?

## Enabling Discipleship and Spiritual Growth

I offer these points for reflection to enable review and reflection on your practice. Using the Ignatian principle of seeking ‘the greater glory of God’, these are offered to encourage what may be already good, to become better and more effective. These are based on the list of points on page 27 of the book (though not in the same order).

*“Those nurturing spiritual growth and discipleship need to address these matters seriously with spiritual maturity, patience and humble trust in God. This, of course, can only come from the crucible of their own journey with God.”*

For those involved in nurturing spiritual growth and discipleship:

*What are the characteristics of your own spiritual life at present?*

*What is prayer for you at present? What helps you discern? What helps you ‘walk the talk’?*

- In what ways is it sustaining and nourishing you?
- In what ways is it helping you discern God’s call to you?
- In what ways is it tested and challenged?
- Who are the ‘friends’ of your faith life? (The people who support, encourage and help you remain focussed on your journey with God)

*Are there desires you have for your spiritual life that are not currently being met? If so, how important are these and what first steps might you make towards the most important ones?*

This is a companion resource for  
Grove Book S130 Ignatius of Loyola by Nick Helm  
Download from [www.ignatius.soulspark.org.uk](http://www.ignatius.soulspark.org.uk)

*“Prayer is the primary means by which a person can be transformed by God.”*

In the practice of the Discipleship and Spiritual Growth work that you do:

*How is it that you give this priority and explicit affirmation?*

*How much time is given to prayer in the sessions?*

*Where in the sessions does prayer come? Does it top and tail it? Does it come after talks and exercises – or does it precede them?*

*Is there a way in which things might be re-ordered to reflect this priority?*

*“Discernment is vital in growing in faithful service of Christ in the world.”*

How are people helped to distinguish between what is of God in their lives and experiences and what is not?

Are there particular insights that are drawn upon?

Is there evidence of growth in discernment through the programme? (of people making choices through seeking to listen to the lead of God)

What are the strengths and weaknesses of your current practice? How can these be built upon?

*“The dynamic journey of Christ’s life helps us to find God in the dynamics of our life.”*

In what ways are the dynamics of Jesus’ human experience reflected upon and used to enable understanding of personal experience?

With the content of your programme, how are the movements from Life (Incarnation & Ministry) to Death (Passion) to New Life (Resurrection) explored? What proportion of time is given to each? Is there a will to stay with ‘dying and death’ to await resurrection?

In what ways might current practice be developed further?

*“A discerning Guide is essential to spiritual growth and discipleship.”*

How are those involved in leading, facilitating and supporting encouraged to develop as discerning people in their roles?

What might be done to further encourage and enable their discerning in life and in their work?