



EfM is a Christian formation program from The School of Theology |The University of the South | Sewanee, where EfM lives. EfM is designed for lay people and is also part of deacon formation in many dioceses.

EfM believes:

- Christians are called to ‘ministry’ through baptism
- Spiritual growth and transformation require attention, intention, and practice
- Worship, prayer, study, and theology are core practices across faiths.

Therefore, EfM offers theological education and practices, context, conversation, and community for:

- Exploring faith matters and the big meaning-making questions of faith and life
- Finding one’s own ways of being and doing in response to baptismal promises and God’s call
- Engaging, responding, and reflecting
- Pathfinding, formation, sustaining, and transformation.

EfM happens in seminar groups of 6-12 guided by 1-2 mentors trained and accredited by Sewanee.

Through EfM we:

- Develop a common language to talk about transcendent things;
- Seek to identify and understand the sources of our own faith beliefs and gain insights, such as ‘Why do I believe what I believe and act as I do?’
- Pray to discover things like ‘Where do my faith and beliefs align with my choices, words and actions; and where do they diverge?’
- Explore and discern ‘How do I live according to my faith and beliefs?’ and plan next steps.

This is the ministry for which EfM (Education for Ministry) seeks to equip people.

EfM may be experienced in two ways:

<p style="text-align: center;">EfM Classic</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 years - 1 year at a time - since 1975</p> <p>Year 1: The Hebrew Bible Old Testament</p> <p>Year 2: The New Testament</p> <p>Year 3: Church History</p> <p>Year 4: Christian Ethics and Spirituality</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EfM Wide Angle</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 year only - since 2025</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A sampling or taste of all things EfM.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For people seeking a lower intensity, lower commitment formation path.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For EfM alums seeking to return or refresh.</p>
<p>* Classic and Wide Angle follow EfM’s Core Practices: Living in Community; Prayer and Worship; Study of Christian Tradition; Theological Reflection; Vocational Discernment. *</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* Seminar groups can be all Classic, or all Wide Angle, or blended. *</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* EfM seminar groups can meet onsite at a venue, or online on Zoom, or a mix of both. *</p>	

Want to know more? For conversation about EfM, starting a group, or becoming a mentor, email EfM Diocesan Coordinator [Liza Page Nelson](#). An [EfM Overview and NY Groups](#) may be found on the Diocese of New York’s website. The [EfM Website](#) has more information and a list of online groups everywhere.