

LEADERSHIP by
DISCERNMENT
nourishing the contemplative-in-action within

WISL 01 WISE 02
SEVEN FOUNTAINS
Chiangmai, Thailand
01 to 08 APRIL 2018

Complexity of
the Outside World Complexity of
Our Inner World

SELF-
AWARENESS

DISCERNMENT

default
feelings
+
automatic
thoughts
+
powerful
hunger

Needed for Discernment

- mastery over our most powerful needs**
- honesty & a spiritual director**
- awareness of our compulsive thoughts, feelings, & needs**
- the passage of time & a spiritual director**

The 4 faces of the evil spirit

For the weak & struggling:

- * An **angry child** who demands louder and louder that we give in
- * A **false lover** who wants us to keep our sins in the darkness of secrecy (That's why we need a spiritual director)
- * An **army general** who attacks us where we are weakest

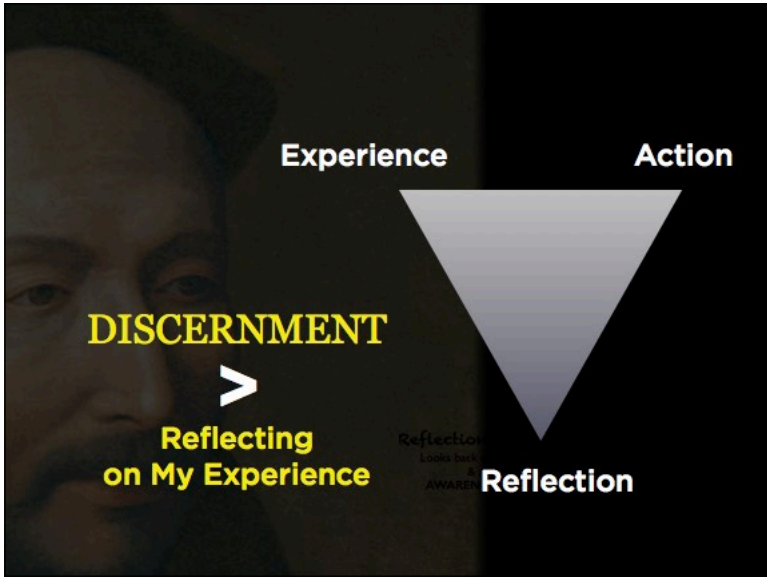
For the more mature & advanced:

- * A false **angel of light**



The Ingredients of
IGNATIAN DISCERNMENT

REFLECTING on My Experience
DISCERNING My Response
PRAYING for Confirmation





Discerning my Response
entails spiritual freedom
--or "Ignatian Indifference"



"Ignatian Indifference"

Lacking
Concern for
the Mission

"Anything
goes!"

Attached
to One's
Preference

Passion +
Concern for
the Mission

Strong
Preferences

Free
to Accept
A Different
Decision



- * Know yourself especially in terms of your default feelings and automatic thoughts.
- * Monitor your inner world to keep your default feelings and automatic thoughts from enslaving you.
- * Honestly identify your biases and predispositions re a decision.
- * Pray for SPIRITUAL FREEDOM.

Spiritual
Freedom

Indifference

Attachment

PASSION



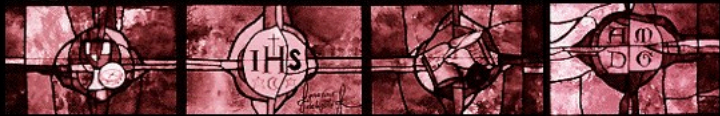
SPIRITUAL FREEDOM



The first fruit of the Holy Spirit in discernment is a sense of indifference, that is, the desire **to let go of anything that might distract from hearing and following God's will.**

Elizabeth A. Liebert in *The Way of Discernment: The Spiritual Practice of Decision Making*

Discerning my Response



CHECK MY BIASES AND ATTACHMENTS:
How much spiritual freedom do I have about the different choices I have?

If I'm not sure, do I at least have **the desire to pray for this spiritual freedom?**

Test your SPIRITUAL FREEDOM

Distance + Perspective
Step Back +
The Bigger Picture

If a friend were in my place, what would I advise him/her?

How would I feel about my response years from now?

At my deathbed?

At the Last Judgment?

