

# What is Discernment?

*Take a moment, think, "What is discernment?" Have you ever seriously asked yourself that? Write down a few things you believe that makeup discernment and keep that in mind for later.*

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Often, we think discernment is trying to figure out, by whatever means, what vocation one should choose and dedicate your life to? Or, in another way, trying to figure out what God is calling you to? Was I basically correct?

But **that isn't discernment**. Not at least the kind of insight you are wanting to work towards. What you are describing is a useful and necessary step, but it is not a formal discernment.

**Vocation discernment is actively living in a vocation to determine what you have chosen is right.** This means if you are discerning priesthood: you are in the seminary living that out. If you are discerning marriage, you are dating or looking to date with the view towards marriage. If you are considering consecrated life, you are there living that out.

That is discernment, and **it carries with it its own responsibilities, expectation, and goals** that you are not ready to make yet. The goal is to get you there.





