

EfM: Wide Angle

Path 2026-27: Following Jesus
EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM) JUN 2

Education for Ministry (EfM) lives at the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. It is a unique, small-group formation program based on study and practice in theological reflection. Since its founding in 1975, this international program has helped more than 120,000 participants discover and nurture their call to Christian service where they live, work, and play. EfM helps the faithful discover the Christian tradition, bringing it into conversation with their experiences of the world. EfM seminar groups develop theologically informed, reflective, and articulate seekers of God.

The EfM curriculum is presented in a cycle of four year-long Paths. They are:

- Path 26-27: Following Jesus
- Path 27-28: Listening to the Spirit
- Path 28-29: Engaging the World
- Path 29-30: The Journey with God

The theme for each Path in the cycle provides a lens for focusing the work throughout the year. Weekly assignments guide participants' responses to the engagement material. Small-group seminars utilize EfM's Core Practices to provide focus and discipline to EfM seminar life.

Each year, Spiritual Sojourners accompany the EfM community through the Path, providing a continuous year-long theological reflection by identifying, exploring, connecting, and applying the Path's theme.

Textbooks support a multi-media study approach, providing participants with their weekly engagement assignment. Participants who go through **EfM: Wide Angle**, a one-year study, are introduced to all aspects of EfM's formation approach found in **EfM: Classic**, the 4-year program; and, if desired, may take it prior to, after graduating from, or somewhere in-between study within that program. It is a way to start, come back to, or to refocus study throughout the participant's EfM formation journey.

The Path, which is your seminar's guide to group work, is included with your course enrollment fee. The Path supports EfM participants in preparing for their weekly seminar sessions. While it may not be possible to do everything assigned each week, giving priority to regularly completing as much of the work in the Path as possible will enhance your formation for ministry through study and theological reflection.

Beyond the Path, you **must purchase textbooks** required for participation in the EfM curriculum, which include:

1. Community Gathering text
2. Your particular year participant textbooks (see below, Wide Angle Texts)
3. Bible with Apocrypha (available at Bible Gateway, <https://www.biblegateway.com/>)

2026-2027 Community Gathering

- *A Full-Hearted Life: Following Jesus in This Secular Age* | Jake Owensby

Wide Angle Texts

- *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again* | Rachel Held Evans
- *The Monastic Heart: 50 Simple Practices for a Contemplative and Fulfilling Life* | Joan Chittister
- *Church Meets World* | Winnie Varghese
- *Ladder to the Light* | Steven Charleston
- *Being Disciples: The Essentials of the Christian Life* | Rowan Williams

Suggested Study Bible Translations

- *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha: New Revised Standard Version*
- *The Westminster Study Bible: New Revised Standard Version*
- *Harper Collins Study Bible: Fully Revised and Updated*
- *The CEB (Common English Bible) Study Bible*

Registration for **EfM: Wide Angle** [and **EfM: Classic**] opens mid-July 2026. **Search out** a mentor (Fred Haseley, fjh1@cox.net), **on-site** or **online**, and let EfM accompany you on your spiritual journey with God and with others!