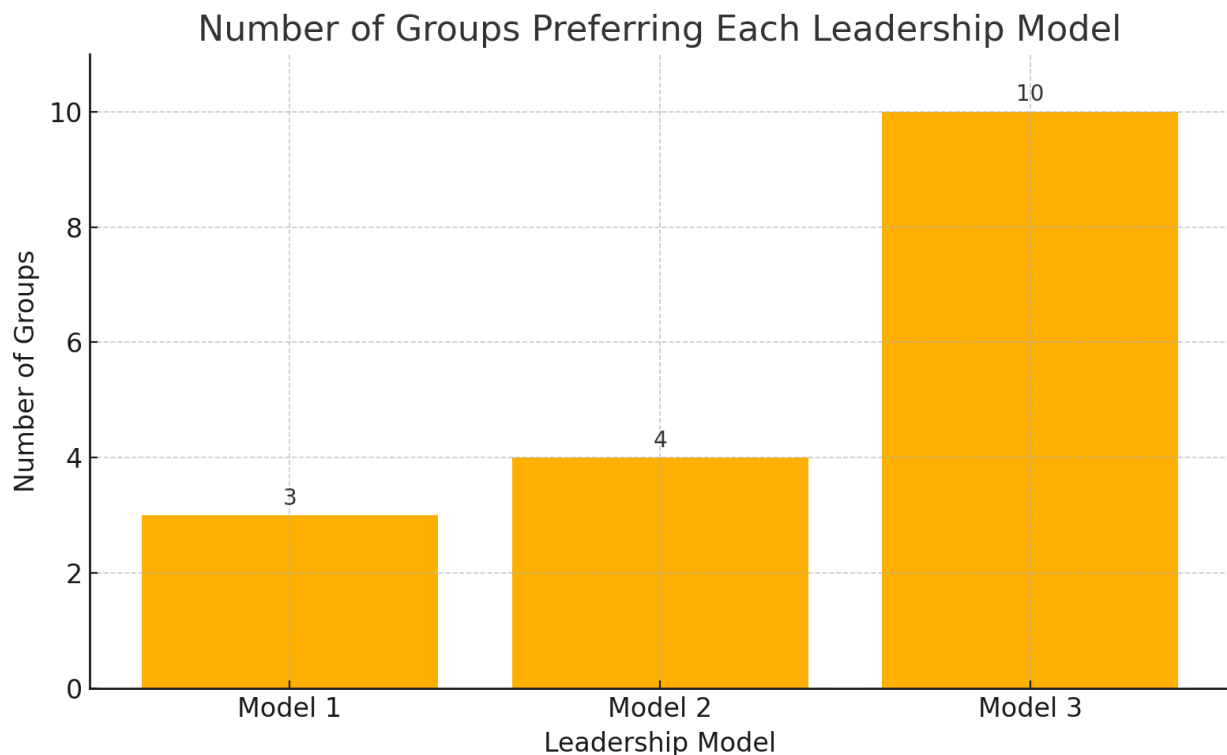


Synthesis of Feedback from Regional Gatherings on Emerging Models of Leadership & Governance

Preferred Model (Across All Countries)

Model 3 is the most widely favored model across all countries due to its flexibility, inclusivity, clear structure, shared responsibility, and openness to participation from sisters, associates, and partners in ministry. Wisdom Circles, in particular, were repeatedly cited as a valuable tool for inclusive engagement and decision-making.

Bar Chart: Model Preferences by Group



Suggested Modifications to Preferred Model (Model 3):

- Clarify responsibilities and authority of Congregational vs. Regional Leadership.
- Clearly define the structure and decision-making power of Wisdom Circles.
- Include Life-Care Coordinators in the model.
- Add a Wisdom Circle focused on Franciscan Spirituality and Community Life.
- Address how administrative functions will be handled.
- Consider adding or reducing the number of elected leaders (from 3 to 6 suggested).
- Define the role and selection process of Wisdom Circle Coordinators.
- Provide guidance on transitioning between Wisdom Circles.
- Include vocational ministry and initial/continuing education in Wisdom Circles.

Key Questions Raised (Across All Regions):

- How is authority defined and exercised at different leadership levels?
 - What are the responsibilities of Regional Leadership, especially in the US?
 - How will administrative duties be managed under Model 3?
 - How are Life-Care Coordinators selected and whom do they report to?
 - What is the process for forming or dissolving Wisdom Circles?
 - What is the role of lay partners and associates in governance?
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Feedback by Country

United States

- Majority favored Model 3; some support for Model 2 or blending Models 1 and 3.
- Strong appreciation for Wisdom Circles and Member Forums.
- Suggestions to elect regional leadership geographically.
- Emphasis on clear delineation of roles and responsibilities.
- Concerns about the size of leadership teams and inclusion of financial experts.
- Support for a simplified model with fewer elected leaders (e.g., 3 or 4).
- Interest in removing or minimizing regional structures in favor of functional circles.

Brazil

- Overwhelming support for Model 3 for its openness, fluidity, and shared decision-making.
- Emphasis on regional autonomy and inclusion in decision-making.
- Suggestion to combine strengths of Models 1 and 3.
- Desire for the elected leadership to include Brazilians and a simplified structure of 3-4 leaders.
- Request to stipulate minimum/maximum number of Wisdom Circles and members.
- Clarification sought on relationship between Wisdom Circles and elected leadership.

Jamaica

- Mixed preference: 3 Sisters for Model 2, 2 for Model 3, 1 for Model 1.
- Valued lay collaboration, inclusion of CFO, and interconnection between elected and regional leadership.
- Support for Wisdom Circles and their role in inclusive governance.
- Suggested addition of a Wisdom Circle on OSF Charism/Spiritual Development.
- Asked how regional leadership in the US would be determined.

Bolivia

- Preference for Model 1, citing its openness, inclusion of laity, and emphasis on community.
 - Appreciated the use of assemblies for deeper connection.
 - Suggested blending good elements from all three models.
 - Stressed importance of "building a bridge" for unity and relationship.
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Conclusion

Model 3 emerges as the preferred and most adaptable structure across countries. However, all countries offered constructive critiques and suggested improvements that could refine the model. There is a clear call for transparency, role clarity, and inclusivity, especially in how Wisdom Circles operate and relate to elected leadership. The next iteration could thoughtfully integrate the best elements of Models 1 and 2 while prioritizing the participatory ethos of Model 3.