



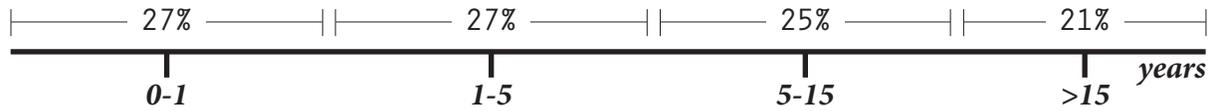
SPIRITUAL ASSESSMENT SURVEY

FAITH & FRUIT

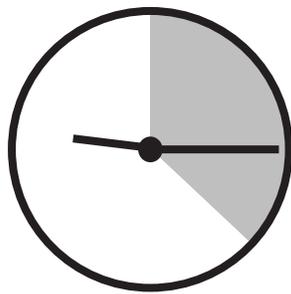
Inside you'll find a Spiritual Assessment Survey everyone within Grace Gathering was asked to complete. While attendance, finances, and programs are the typical measurements of success for the western church, Jesus modeled and taught a different way. We want to measure success in terms of **Faithfulness and Fruitfulness** as we become more like Jesus in character and spiritual influence of others. Jesus taught us to do this more and more in community with others.

WHO WE ARE.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ATTENDING GRACE?



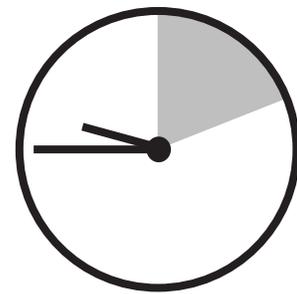
WHICH SERVICE DO YOU NORMALLY ATTEND?



9:15A / 37%
NEW HAVEN SITE

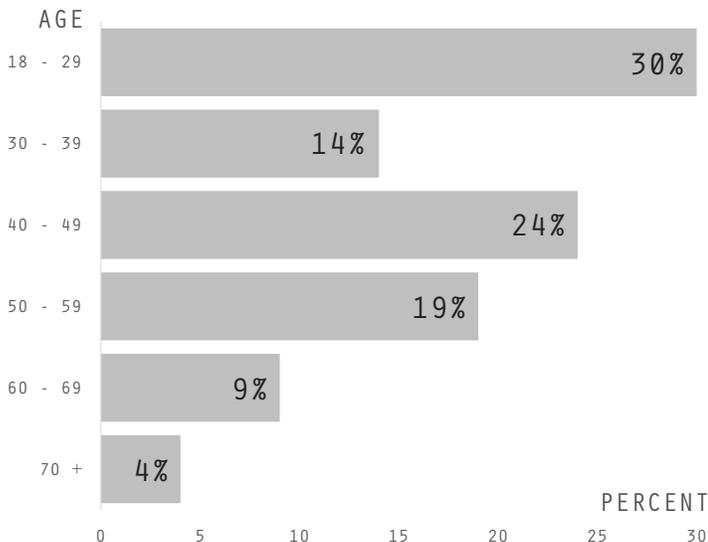


11:00A / 44%
NEW HAVEN SITE

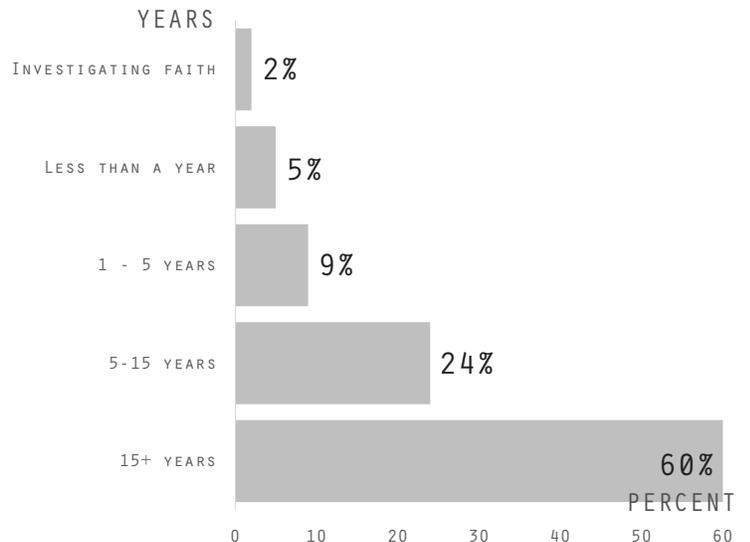


9:45A / 19%
NORTH SITE

WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



HOW LONG HAVE YOU FOLLOWED JESUS?

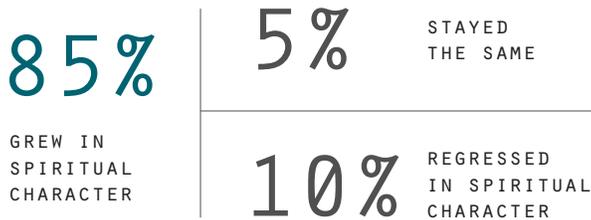


ARE WE GROWING?

One of the primary ways we want to measure growth in Grace Gathering is by tracking how people grow in specific areas of discipleship. We asked everyone to share if they felt like they had grown, regressed, or stayed the same in the past year.

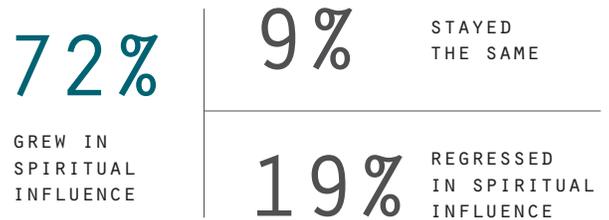
SPIRITUAL CHARACTER

Over the last 12 months, do you feel you have grown in your **spiritual character** (e.g. fruits of the Spirit, loving enemies, devotional life, giving, purity, prayer, humility, compassion etc.)?



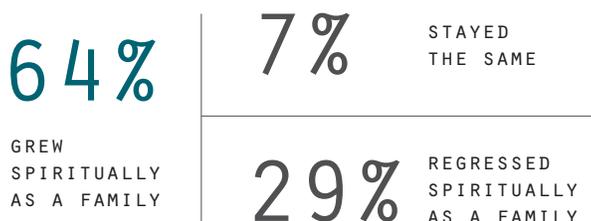
SPIRITUAL INFLUENCE

Over the last 12 months, do you feel you have grown in your **spiritual influence** of others (spiritual gifts, sharing the gospel, discipling, praying for others, healing the sick, blessing the least, lost, and last, etc.)?



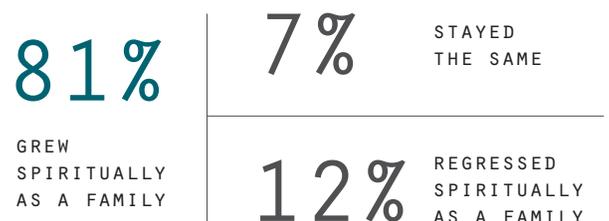
SHARING LIFE

Over the last 12 months, do you feel your walk with God and fulfillment of mission are being pursued more in **community with others**? In other words, do you feel you are sharing life with other believers consistently, where it feels like family?



FAMILY GROWTH

Has your **immediate family** (spouse and children if applicable) grown spiritually the last 12 months in spiritual character and leadership?



A DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE.

Most statistics tell us that 20% of church attenders do 80% of the ministry. While serving in the church within various programs is helpful, the reality is that less than half of church ministry is directly engaged in intentionally discipling people in both the character and skill of Jesus. This means that statistically in the U.S. less than 10% of church goers are either intentionally discipling others or being disciplined themselves. Churches that have a plan for discipleship and are seeing more than 10% of their people in these relationships are leading the way out of this discipleship crisis in the western church.

DISCIPLING YOU

Do you have someone who is intentionally discipling you on a regular basis and helping you grow in your spiritual character and leadership?



DISCIPLING OTHERS

Are you intentionally discipling specific people in your life (outside of your family) to help them grow in both their spiritual character and leadership?



MISSIONAL COMMUNITY

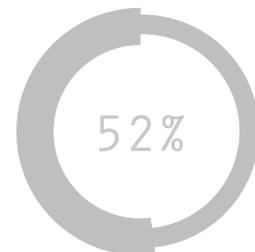
Loving God, each other, and the lost – in community with others...



I'M A PART OF A
FORMAL MISSIONAL
COMMUNITY



I'M A PART OF AN
INFORMAL FAMILY
ON MISSION



NOT INVOLVED IN
AN MC OR MISSION
ORIENTED GROUP

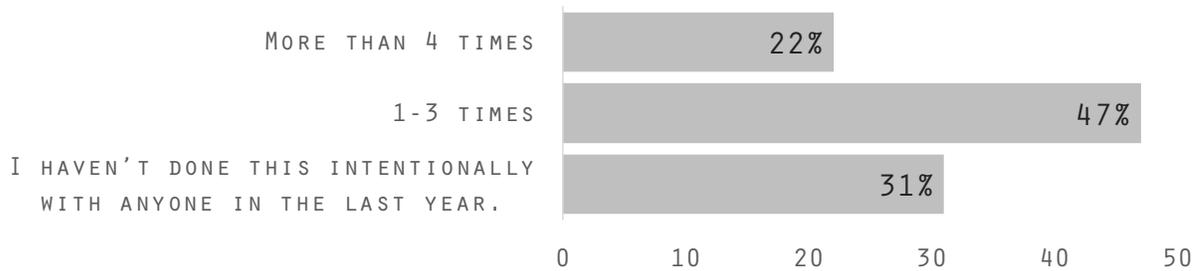
FIRST LOVE

Grace Gathering is currently in a season of helping everyday followers of Jesus grow in their identity as missionaries. We want to grow in our ability to capitalize on spiritual conversations and outreach opportunities to help investigators develop a relationship with God.

The focus is on both people's character/heart of loving others outside of the faith and also in the skill/confidence of sharing the gospel. Below is a recap of how people have responded to this season and stepped out in faith.

SHARED THE GOSPEL

How many times in the last year have you shared the gospel with someone and encouraged them to surrender their life to Jesus in faith?



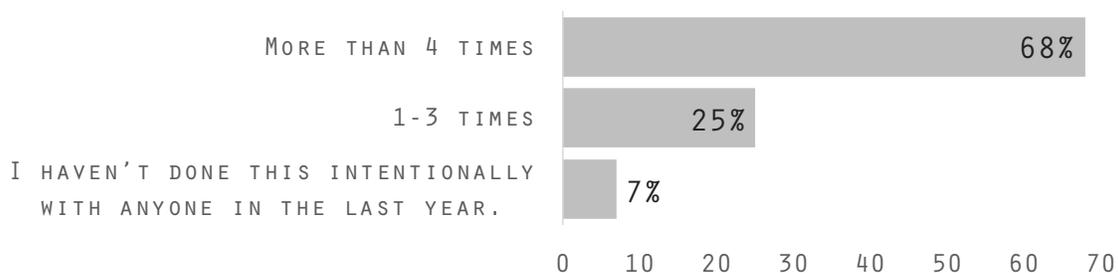
WHY YOU HELD BACK

When you haven't explained the gospel with those in your life who need Jesus, what has been the main reason?



PRAYING FOR HEALING

How many times in the last year have you prayed for someone (in their presence and out loud) for God to bring physical healing in their body?



ANALYSIS & OBSERVATIONS

STRENGTHS

NEW ATTENDERS

54% of our population have been attending Grace for five years or less. This is an increase of 14% over the last three years. It's exciting that we continue to reach new people.

YOUNG ADULTS

The age demographic in our congregation is still very diverse, showing another notable increase in the 18-29 age group (9%). This can be attributed in part to continuing efforts with FORM, our young adult internship program, the spiritual growth within our high school students, our partnership with New Haven Senior High on an internship program and an increase in leadership and staffing in this age category.

GRACE GATHERING NORTH

19% of respondents recorded attending our north site location. This is a growth of 10% over the last three years. God continues to bless this step of faith to reach out to other areas of Greater Fort Wayne.

NEW BELIEVERS

The data shows 7% of respondents have been Christ followers for less than a year. This is a 2% increase over last year's results. Though this seems like limited breakthrough, we do know many more people have come to faith this past year, because of our First Love tracking. We celebrate this fact while trusting that future surveys will reflect this reality.

Through our First Love initiative, more and more Grace attenders are sharing the gospel in word and deed. Our survey of Grace attenders shows that 68% of believers have shared the gospel at least once in the last year. 22% of those people had shared it more than 4 times! This is a dramatic increase from our previous year's survey.

Along similar lines, roughly 94% of respondents have personally prayed directly for God to bring healing to another person's physical body in their presence and out loud. There is no data from previous years, however we believe this is an area of significant growth for our congregation.

DISCIPLESHIP

The Barna Research Group notes that 73% of Christians claim their churches stress the importance of spiritual growth. Yet, of those same believers, only 20% are involved in some sort of discipleship activity. That means 80% of Christians are not involved in any sort of spiritual growth activity nationwide.

In contrast to this alarming statistic, 54% of attenders at Grace Gathering are receiving intentional investment from another disciple. This is an increase of 11% from 2016. Also worth noting is that 55% of our community are intentionally investing in others (an 18% increase from 2016). This could be for a number of reasons, including our efforts to offer a wider variety of discipleship options (classes, small groups, bible studies, Seeking God studies, etc.) for both participants as well as leaders and providing specific training in the areas of Exploring Family on Mission and leading Mission Communities. We celebrate this growth!

CONTINUED GROWTH & INFLUENCE

Our responses to the four questions on spiritual growth continue to remain at high levels. 64% of respondents feel they have grown in the area of sharing life, 81% feel their family has grown spiritually in the past year, 72% have grown in their leadership influence with others, and 85% feel they have grown in spiritual character growth. Overall, these numbers indicate that Grace is a body of believers who are pursuing growth in their relationship with God personally and in their families. They also realize the importance of leading and multiplying that growth in others.

ANALYSIS & OBSERVATIONS

WEAKNESSES

DISCIPLESHIP

Though we celebrate the high number of individuals giving and receiving investment, we still see nearly 46% of those surveyed not being intentionally discipled on a regular basis by anyone. Similarly, 45% of our congregation are NOT intentionally investing in others. And although the numbers have decreased over the last couple of years, we would love to see a greater and greater number of our family take on Jesus' charge to "go and make disciples."

NEW ATTENDERS

Grace Gathering has experienced a 9% increase in our new attenders over the last year. 7% of those are new to faith within the last 12 months. This means 2% of our new attenders have come for other reasons. Although this can signal many good things, we would still like the number to reflect more people coming to faith.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS

MISSIONAL LIVING

While we've noticed a shift in the data from those involved in informal arrangements of missional community life to a more formal missional community structure, still over half (52%) of our congregation are not involved with a community of people sharing life together and mission together. (This is despite the fact that we have given considerable effort and training to both exploring family of mission and developing missional communities.) Part of the slow movement in this area can be attributed to the fact that devoting a family's life on mission in community necessitates a dramatic shift in the individual's and family's way of life (rhythms and practices).

IN CONCLUSION...

G. K. Chesterton, a Christian philosopher, is quoted as saying, "Anything worth doing is worth doing badly." The human part of spiritual transformation is a very difficult thing, but absolutely worth our effort. Thankfully, the bulk and fruit of "doing" is the responsibility of the Holy Spirit. We joyfully celebrate every gain! However, shortcomings are to be expected. It is extremely important that we step back from time to time and get a glimpse of the big picture. What we hope to see (and do see in this survey) is an upward trend in the direction of becoming more like Jesus in character and competency. So, to this end we press on, not conforming to the pattern of this world, but being transformed by the renewing of our minds, confident that God desires to see His good, pleasing, and perfect will be done in us and our city as it is in Heaven.

- "...he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." –Phil 1:6 ▪