



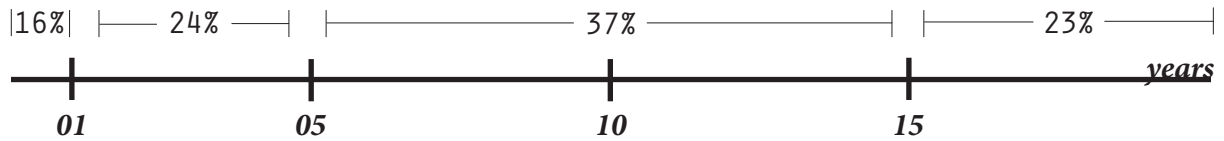
FAITH *and* FRUIT

A SNAPSHOT OF
GRACE GATHERING'S
SPIRITUAL GROWTH
OVER THE LAST 12
MONTHS - MAY 2015

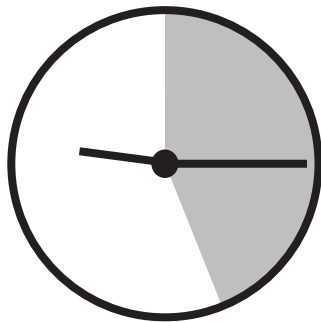
The following information is a spiritual assessment every attender of Grace Gathering was asked to complete. While attendance, finances, and programs are the typical measurements of success for the western church, Jesus modeled and taught a different way. **Faithfulness** and **fruitfulness** to become more like Jesus in both character and spiritual influence of others are the barometers of success at Grace. Jesus taught us to do this within a greater sense of shared life and community with others. The following information reveals one's self-assessment in some of these key areas.

POPULATION

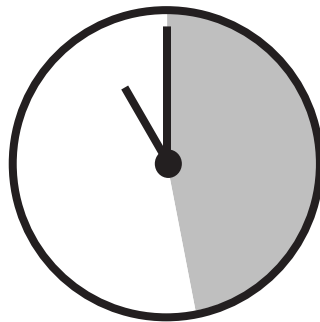
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ATTENDING GRACE?



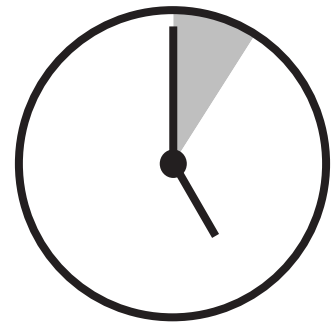
WHICH SERVICE DO YOU NORMALLY ATTEND?



9:15A / 44%
NEW HAVEN SITE

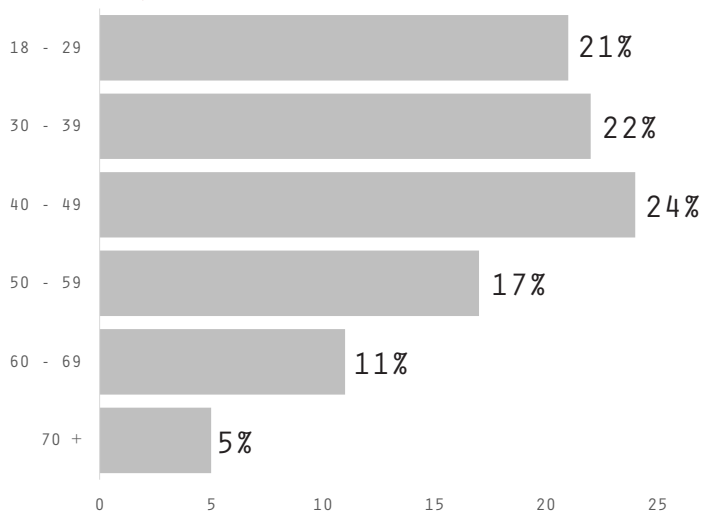


11:00A / 47%
NEW HAVEN SITE

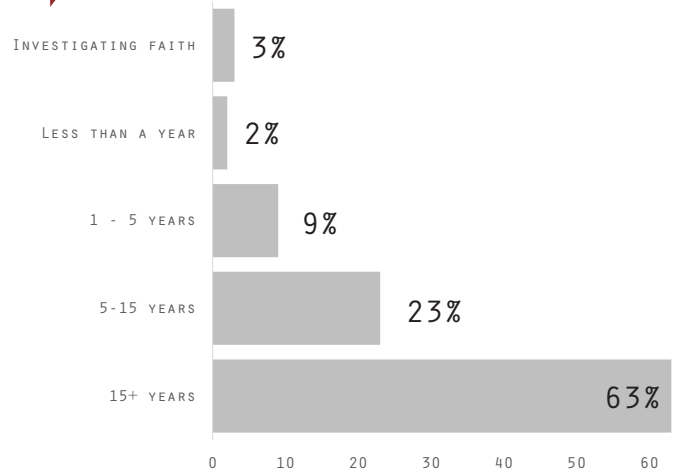


5:00P / 9%
NORTH SITE

WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A COMMITTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS?



GROWING

Everyone taking the assessment was asked to rank themselves on a scale from 1 to 10 on the trend of their growth over the last 12 months in these key areas. A ranking of 1 to 4 indicates regression, a ranking of 5 indicates no change, and a ranking of 6 to 10 indicates growth in that area.

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.)?

85%

GREW IN
SPIRITUAL
CHARACTER

10%

STAYED THE
SAME

5%

REGRESSED
IN SPIRITUAL
CHARACTER

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 believers, praying for others, healing the sick, blessing the least, lost, and last, etc.)?

75%

GREW IN
SPIRITUAL
INFLUENCE

17%

STAYED THE
SAME

8%

REGRESSED
IN SPIRITUAL
INFLUENCE

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?

62%

GREW IN
SHARING
LIFE

17%

STAYED THE
SAME

20%

REGRESSED
IN SHARING
LIFE

FAMILY GROWTH

Has your **immediate family** (spouse and children if applicable) grown spiritually the last 12 months in spiritual character and leadership? (Note: 7% responded not applicable.)

72%

GREW
SPIRITUALLY
AS A FAMILY

14%

STAYED THE
SAME

7%

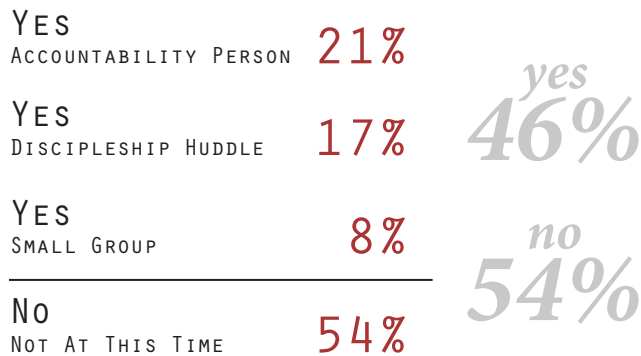
REGRESSED
SPIRITUALLY
AS A FAMILY

DISCIPLING

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.

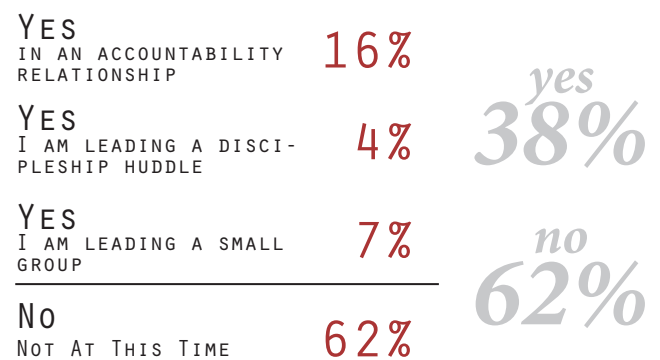
DISCIPLING YOU

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



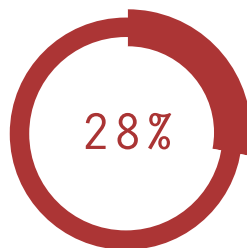
DISCIPLING OTHERS

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

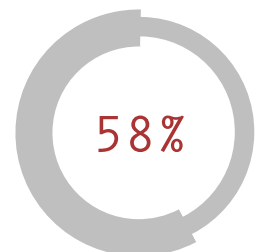
Loving God, each other, and the lost – in community with others...



INVOLVED IN A
FORMAL MISSION
COMMUNITY



INVOLVED IN A
MISSION ORIENTED
GROUP



NOT INVOLVED IN
AN MC OR MISSION
ORIENTED GROUP

ANALYSIS *and* OBSERVATIONS

WEAKNESSES

This survey does not track new believer growth outside the centralized gathering (which we've had some), but for those who attend, new believer growth has been marginal at 11% over the last 5 years.

More than half of the congregation (54%) are not being disciplined on a regular basis by anyone.

Most people in the congregation are not intentionally discipling others (62%).

Over the last year we have seen 11% attendance growth. However, 16% of those surveyed are new to Grace within the last 12 months. This means that we lost 5% of our attenders last year. Some of this could be for good reasons but certainly some were not for good reasons.

20% of people have regressed in the last year regarding pursuing mission within community and shared life with others. Part of this reason is that we have lost some momentum in the development of mission communities that we hope will change as we have just hired a staff member to spend more time developing this.

STRENGTHS

The age demographic of the congregation is very diverse and there is a healthy percentage of young adults and young families at Grace.

40% of the congregation has been attending Grace five years or less. This indicates Grace is reaching many new people.

9% of Grace attenders are attending the north site. This is an exciting reality as Grace is expanding their reach now in a different location.

While the numbers of those being disciplined (46%) and actively discipling others (38%) may seem low initially, comparatively speaking with the statistical trend of the western church, these numbers are quite encouraging and certainly on the up-swing as discipleship has grown as a focus at Grace over recent years.

The four questions on spiritual growth indicate that the vast majority of attenders at Grace feel they are growing in the area of sharing life (62%), family growth (72%), leadership growth (75%), and character growth (82%). In other words, if you are at Grace very long, it is hard to be someone who is not growing in his/her relationship with God. Of all the stats, these numbers are the most encouraging of all. ■