

# FAITH & FRUIT

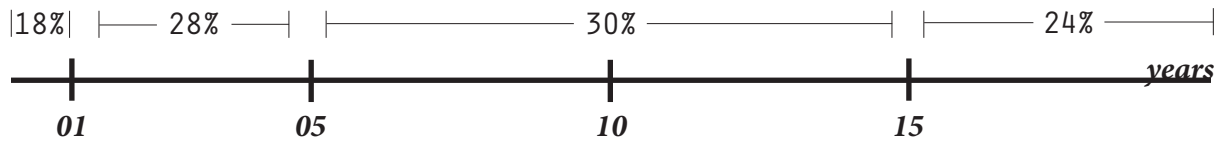
Inside you'll find a Spiritual Assessment Survey everyone within Grace Gathering was asked to complete. While attendance, finances, and programs are the typical measurements of success for the western church, Jesus modeled and taught a different way. We want to measure success in terms of **Faithfulness 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.

JUNE 2016

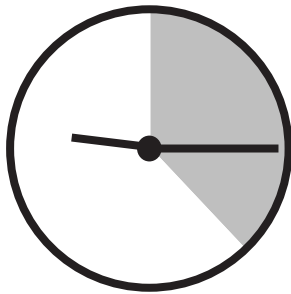


# WHO WE ARE.

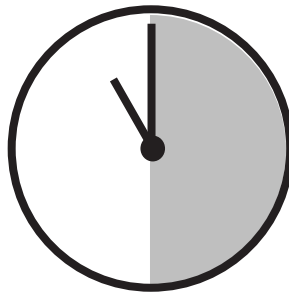
## HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN ATTENDING GRACE?



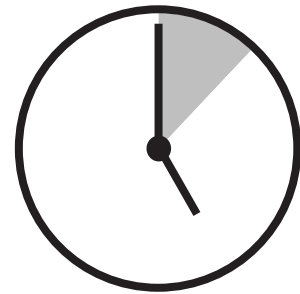
## WHICH SERVICE DO YOU NORMALLY ATTEND?



9:15A / 38%  
NEW HAVEN SITE

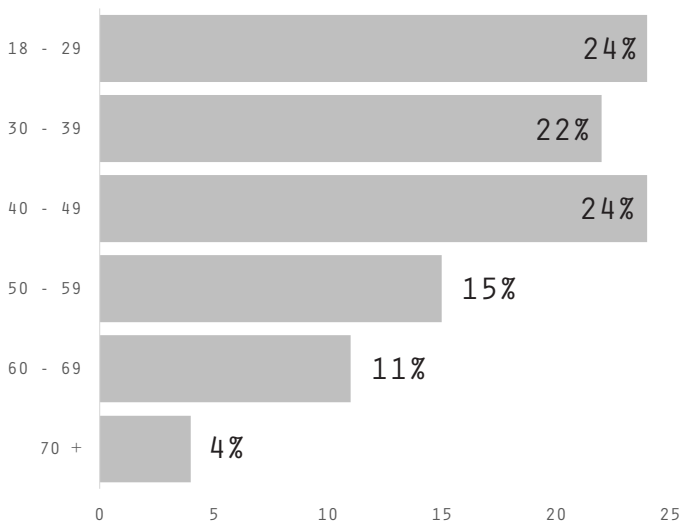


11:00A / 50%  
NEW HAVEN SITE

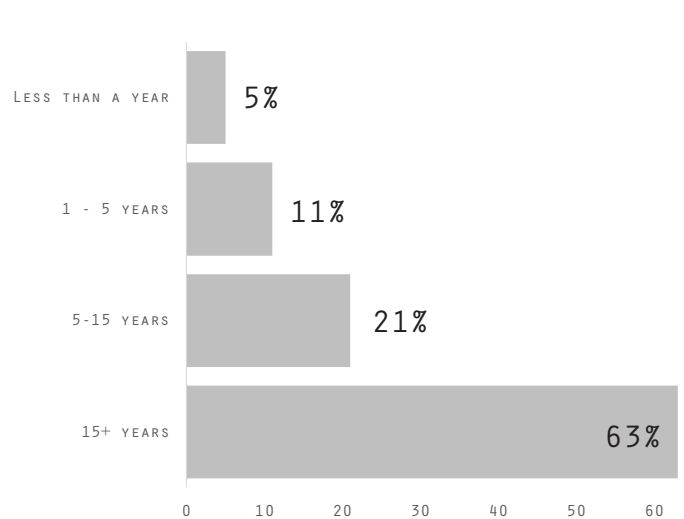


5:00P / 12%  
NORTH SITE

## WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



## HOW LONG HAVE YOU FOLLOWED JESUS?



# ARE WE 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 5 indicates regression 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.)?

86%

GREW IN  
SPIRITUAL  
CHARACTER

14%

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

74%

GREW IN  
SPIRITUAL  
INFLUENCE

26%

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?

65%

GREW IN  
SHARING  
LIFE

35%

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?

81%

GREW  
SPIRITUALLY  
AS A FAMILY

19%

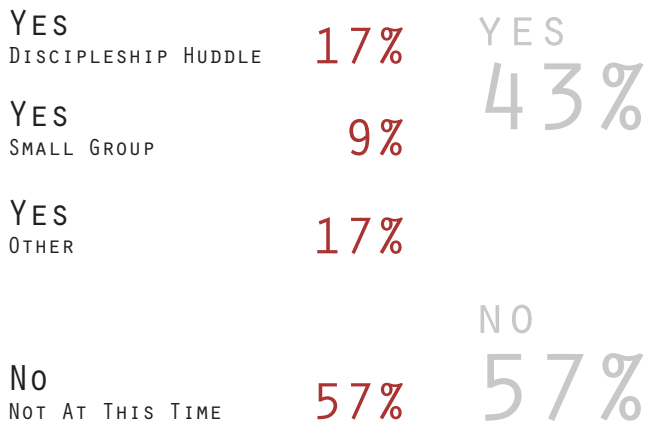
REGRESSED  
SPIRITUALLY  
AS A FAMILY

# 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.

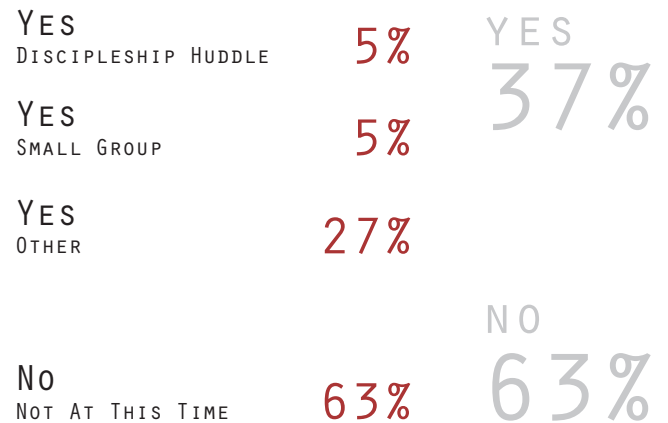
## DISCIPLING YOU

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



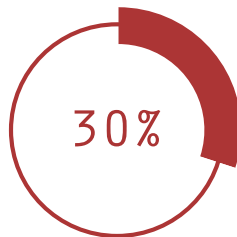
## DISCIPLING OTHERS

*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

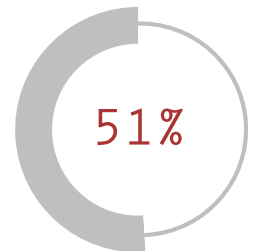
*Loving God, each other, and the lost – in community with others...*



I AM CURRENTLY  
IN A MISSIONAL  
COMMUNITY



I MEET WITH  
A FAMILY ON  
MISSION



NOT INVOLVED IN  
AN MC OR MISSION  
ORIENTED GROUP

# ANALYSIS & OBSERVATIONS

## STRENGTHS

46% of our population have been attending Grace from five years or less. This is an increase of 6% over last year. We are still reaching and retaining new people.

The age demographic in our congregation is still very diverse, showing notable growth in the 18-29 age group (2.5%). This could be attributed in part to the launching of FORM, our young adult internship program and the spiritual growth within our high school students.

12% of respondents recorded attending our north site location. This is a growth of 3% over last year. God seems to be blessing this step of faith to reach out to this area.

We've seen an overall increase in attendance in the past twelve months (7%).

While the numbers of those being discipled and discipling others may initially seem low, the reality is that our statistics compared to the Western Church would indicate that Grace is well above the curve in this regard. George Barna has noted that 20% of Christians are involved in some sort of discipleship activity nation wide. 43% of our population are receiving intentional investment from another disciple. 37% are intentionally investing in others. Though we have a long way to go in the journey toward every believer responding to the command to "go and make disciples," we celebrate where we are today.

Our four questions on spiritual growth indicate that most attenders feel they have grown in the area of sharing life

(65%, up 3%), family growth (81%, up 3%), leadership influence (74%, steady), and character growth (86%, up 2%). Overall, these numbers indicate a Grace is a body of believers that desires growth in his/her relationship with God and others.

## WEAKNESSES

Almost 57% of those surveyed are not being intentionally discipled on a regular basis by anyone. This is an increase of 8% over last year's data. Similarly, a majority of our congregation are NOT intentionally investing in others (63%) – a 1% increase over last year. It is difficult to do more than speculate on the hindrances here.

While Grace is a very spiritually seasoned and maturing congregation (84% have been following Jesus for five years or more), we are experiencing limited breakthrough in new believer growth (5%).

18% of surveyors are new attenders to Grace Gathering. 5% of those are new to faith within the last 12 months. This means 13% of our new attenders have come for other reasons. Although this can signal good things, we would like the number to reflect more people coming to faith.

Over half (51%) of our congregation are not pursuing mission within a community of people sharing life together. ■