

FAITH FULL

Individual Workbook



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INDIVIDUAL WORKBOOK INFORMATION

The individual guide gives space for you to answer all the questions at the end of each chapter and includes some activities to enhance your learning. If you are working through the book alone or with one or two others, then the individual guide will serve you well. If you are working through the 8-week curriculum, then the group workbook is what you should use.

Faith Full is written in a progression from personal engagement with God's Word, to interacting with God through the spiritual disciplines, to discipling others. The book concludes with a few tools for evangelism and the call to put everything learned into action. This guide is intentionally here to slow you down, encouraging you to really reflect on what you've learned, and seek ways to put what you've learned into practice.

Make sure you read the "Quick Tips as You Read Through This," and "Before you Begin" sections.

ASSESSMENTS:

Some chapters will include a QR code linking you to a multiple-choice assessment that evaluates your spiritual maturity in 9 different areas. Information about the assessments and assessment result information can be found at the end of this guide. Know the assessments are:

- 1) Designed to allow you to see where you are in your faith so you can know what next steps to take. They are not meant to discourage you or frustrate you.
- 2) For you only. Individual results will not be seen by anyone but you.
- 3) Based on honestly answering the questions of where you are, not where you wish to be. An honest approach will give the clearest steps to growth.
- 4) There to help move you toward becoming a "Spiritual Parent," so be sure to look at the "Spiritual Parent" description of each assessment to know what the goal is.

ACTIVITIES:

There are some supplemental activities which will help put the disciplines to practice. You may find some of the activities are easier than others, but don't neglect the difficult ones. Often the most stretching activities produce the most growth.

QUICK TIPS AS YOU WORK THROUGH THIS:

Be aware of the Spirit: As you read and engage in these questions be in prayer. This workbook is not here to rush to completion. It's a guide to give you space to take what you've read, and ponder, mull over, and allow the challenge of engaging in your faith to sink deeper.

Mine for answers: Often the first answer you think of is the easy answer. As you think about responding to each question, don't settle for quick. Instead, mine your thoughts for answers, seeking if there is more there than what easily pops into your mind.

Head to heart: Anything we learn can be just that, knowledge we have. Try to direct your thoughts to discover how each of the things you are reading can, and will, be applied to help you love Jesus and live out His calling on your life.

The desire is growth for you AND others: I want you to have a full faith that connects your heart to Jesus in a way that has you helping others connect their hearts to Jesus. This study is not just for you, it's for you to help others fully live out their faith as well.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN... Don't skip this

The title of this book is slightly misleading. At face value, it may lead you to believe your faith depends on you. In other words, 'faithful living' is all about fulfilling a list of "to-do's." While a desire to implement tools to increase your faith is good, if your approach isn't rooted correctly, these tools can frustratingly weigh you down. They could be received as obligations with a belief your relationship with God is based on your work.

Both the starting and enduring perspective which is needed revolves around the Gospel. The Gospel is the eternal story of God's pursuing love, humanity's constant rejection of God, and failure to live out His perfect will. It's the beauty of God's willingness to answer the problem we created, conquering sin and death, and the invitation for us to enter into the story of a faithful God. Faith Full will equip you with tools to deepen your faith, but it's God's grace and God's strength that makes a faith full life possible. The Gospel is incredible in so many ways. It is an encouragement to trust the God who has proven His love for us in that while we were still sinners, He sent His son to die for us. (Romans 5:8) It is a reminder that there is no amount of effort we can put forth to earn righteousness. (Eph 2:8-9) It is an

invitation to die to self, to live for Christ (Romans 14:8), not because God angrily requires this, but because He is God, and He knows best.

The Gospel is the nucleus of a faith full life because it places Jesus at the center, not ourselves, our strength, or our "holiness." The Gospel doesn't excuse us to live however we want. Instead, it reveals that living the way you want, apart from Christ, is terrible, harmful and tears apart the perfection God created us to live in. God, not you, is the answer to "How to FULLY live out your faith." Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6) and His Spirit guides us (John 16:13). So, as you gain tools to fully live out your faith, read each chapter with faith in Jesus Christ, God incarnate, who came to the earth to die for your sins because He loves you. Remember, He rose from the dead and invites you to trust and follow Him because He, and He alone, offers life to the fullest.

I wrote a lullaby to my kids when they were younger. The words echo what I want you to remember throughout your reading. The first three stanzas reflect my heart, as a father, to my precious, loved, helpless, needy, and infinitely cherished children. It is an affirmation that they've done nothing to deserve my love, that there is nothing they can do to earn more of it. The words remind them my love existed before they even knew me. The lullaby is a pledge of my faithfulness to my children simply because they are mine. In the same way, God sings his better song over you, reminding you the work of Christ is finished, the price has been paid, and you are His child. The first step, and daily step, of FULLY Living out your faith is "nothing you can do," but is rooted in simply, and only, receiving the love of the Father, who says:

Hush little baby, don't you cry
Daddy's gonna sing you a lullaby

Hush little baby, I love you
There is nothing you can do

I love you with all my heart
I've loved you from the very start

You've no idea how much you're loved
By both me and the one above

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PREPARING YOUR HEART AND MIND

While “Faith Full” will give you tools to fully live out your faith, you will quickly notice the tools are primarily directed at your relationship with God. It’s not until the third part of the book where you will be challenged and equipped in two areas: discipleship and evangelism.

This may seem odd. “How practical is a book that doesn’t dive into real life scenarios and walk me through how to handle those circumstances in the context of my faith?” The practicality of how faith is applied in real life situations is found in developing a living, focused relationship with God.

There is no way each nuance of life can be addressed specifically by a book, but there is a God who knows each nuance, knows you, loves you, and walks with you in all of life’s highs and lows. This is the essence of practical guidance- guiding you to a relationship with God where you know His presence, and you respond in the way He would want, because you love Him.

So, as you move through this book and workbook, I pray each tool is seen as an opportunity to interact with God in a way that draws your heart to reflect His and has you living every area of your life full of faith.

Take time to ponder and write down the answer to all the questions:

How do you hope this book will help in your faith journey? Why?

What do you see in other’s faith that you desire? Why?

When have you felt closest to God? What contributed to that closeness?

When have you felt most distant from God? Is there anything about that time that gives reason to that distance?

What areas of your life have you seen grow the most in Christ-likeness?

What areas of your faith do you desire to grow the most?

What do you think it looks like to “Fully Live Out” your faith?

Write out a prayer in response to your answers above:

INTRODUCTION- MORE

Pray that God would speak to you as you read Hebrews 12:1-17

Here the author gives an encouragement and an intense challenge. He points to the work of Christ for salvation and for motivation to live the way God asks. He doesn't say life will be easy. The way of Christ often comes with trial and discipline, but even in the tough times, trusting God means there is a God who loves us, cheers us on and strengthens us to live for Him... if we rely on Him and not ourselves.

How does this verse connect with what you read in the introduction "More"?

What thoughts did God bring to your mind as you read Hebrews 12?

Reflection questions from "More"

- In what you read in "More", what resonates most strongly with you? Why?

- What is the most challenging part of living out your faith?

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- What are some areas about your faith with which you are unsatisfied or which you want more?

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- What are your most significant barriers to growth (i.e., busyness, lack of motivation)? How can you overcome those barriers as you read this book?

Part One: The Fuel to Live

Chapter 1: TRANSFORMATIVE BIBLE READING

Pray for focus and for God to speak to you as you read James 1:19-25

James makes a distinction between those who interact with the Word in a non-transformative way, and those who partake to be changed, to live differently. One of the primary ways God teaches us and communicates with us is through His Word.

How does this verse connect with what you read in the introduction “Transformative Bible Reading”?

What thoughts did God bring to your mind as you read these verses?

Reflection questions from “Transformative Bible Reading”

- Are you reading the Bible regularly? Why or why not?

- For most, the default reading approach is “informational.” Is that true for you? Why?

- How might you intentionally approach God’s Word in a more “transformational” way?

- If you are regularly studying God’s Word, what was it that spurred on that discipline?

- If you aren’t, which of the three reasons given define you? (confusing, boring, time) Or is there another one?

- Who is someone you know who regularly reads the Bible, and what can you glean from them to develop a better, more consistent, engagement with God’s Word?

ASSESSMENT: CORE BELIEFS



Chapter 2: THE RIGHT APPROACH MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Pray for focus and for God to speak to you as you read Deuteronomy 6:4- 9

The section of scripture is known as the “Shema”. “Shema” means “hear” in Hebrew with assumptions that hearing means taking action. These verses were the central prayer in Jewish society. The prayer would be prayed multiple times a day to remind oneself of the necessity of hearing and responding to God, reflecting on His commandments to guide your life.

How does this verse connect with what you read in the introduction “The Right Approach Make All The Difference”?

What thoughts did God bring to your mind as you read these verses?

Reflection questions from “The Right Approach Makes All The Difference”

- In which of the two types of study (Breadth and Depth) do you most often participate?

- What would it mean for your life if each time you studied God's Word, you allowed it to shape your actions and attitudes?

- What areas of your life have you not allowed God's Word to transform?

- Do you understand the difference between eisegesis and exegesis? If so, write down, in your own words, the difference. If you have any questions for clarification, write those down and seek out someone to answer them.

- "God's Word trumps the culture's perspective." This includes your own bias and how you think things should be. Are there any areas of your life where you are making excuses not to align with what God's Word says? Explain

ASSESSMENT: BIBLICAL ENGAGEMENT



Chapter 3: CONTEXT IS KEY

Pray for focus and for God to speak to you as you read Jeremiah 29:11

What, if reading this verse by itself, does it seem to claim?

Now read all of Jeremiah 29:1-23

Who is this written to?

What seems to be the state of those who this claim is made for?

What is the immediate result for those this claim is being made? (See verse 10)

With some of the context of this verse understood how does the actual meaning of this verse differ from when it was read alone?

Reflection questions from "Context is Key"

- What are some Bible verses you know or have heard...go back to those and read the surrounding verses or chapter and reflect on the expanded contextual understanding of the verse. How has the verse gained meaning thought this experience? How might it have lost some of the meaning you thought it had? How does the literary context help you use the verse properly? (HOW WAS THIS FOR YOU?)

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- Historical context is often not found in the literary context since the authors were writing to the people of that time, so how might you gain a better understanding of historical context? (hint: see pg. 54 in the book)

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- C.S. Lewis used the term “chronological snobbery” to describe “the assumption that whatever is new is true, with an uncritical acceptance of the most current thought.”² Truth isn’t to be assumed just because an idea is new. If that were the case, we could have no confidence in what we now believe because the future will be new and supplant our current truth. Instead, we must evaluate things based on their inherent claims. Not based on newness or the current cultural assumptions. How might your twenty-first-century mindset incorrectly influence your interpretation of the Bible? What areas of the Bible make you uncomfortable because they are in tension with our current social climate?

Chapter 4: SEEING JESUS EVERYWHERE

Pray for focus and for God to speak to you as you read and reflect on Genesis 22

How is this a foreshadowing of Jesus?

As this account changes from a statement about what you must do (Be willing to sacrifice whatever) to what God will do (willing to sacrifice His son), how does it change the way God is interacting with you as you read?

Reflection questions from “Seeing Jesus Everywhere”

- Have you ever read the Old Testament with a perspective of finding foreshadowing of Jesus? If so, how did that impact your reading? If not, how does this approach change your perspective of the Old Testament?

- Read Exodus 12 : How is the Exodus story a foreshadowing of Christ?

- Read 2 Samuel 7:10-17 (The author, Samuel, is referring to Solomon as “the offspring” in verse 12) How are the statements following verse 12 a foreshadowing of Jesus?

Chapter 5: A.I.M. AND OTHER TOOLS

We're going to work through a verses that emphasize what you've been reading the last few chapters.

Pray for focus, and for God to speak to you as you read.

Read Matthew 10:34-36

Without looking at context, what do you make of these verses?

Now Read Matthew 10:34-39

With a little more context, what clarity has been brought to this verse?

Now read Matthew 10:26-42

With even more context, what clarity has been brought to these verses?

Now Read all of Matthew 10

With a lot more context, what do you understand about verses 34-36 in contrast to your first reading?

Now go to the resource given to you www.soniclight.com and read what Dr. Constable has to say about these verses.

How did reading the verse in context and with resources better help you understand the meaning of these verses?

Reflection questions from “A.I.M. and Other Tools”

- How does reading the Bible for the author’s intended meaning help you avoid misinterpretation?

- How might discovering the A.I.M. enhance your understanding and application of a passage?

- What did you think about the section on individualism? What thoughts do you have about a corporate interaction and responsibility to God? Spend time talking to God about that.

- Use your own words to explain the difference between prescriptive and descriptive passages.

- Have you ever used a commentary? Why or why not?

Chapter 6: S.O.A.P.ing

Prayerfully work through the S.O.A.P.ing method with John 3.

Observations:

Application:

Prayer:

Reflection questions from “S.O.A.P.ing”

- What was the easiest part of SOAPING?

- What was most challenging?

- How did SOAPING help you focus and gain better retention?

Chapter 7: KEEPING UP THE HABIT

Studies have shown that it takes an average of about 2 months to form an automatic habit... as we've covered the significant value of spending time in God's Word, who can you ask to help you build the habit through accountability?

How are you going to ask them to help you build this habit?

Reflection questions from "Keeping Up The Habit"

- What is the most challenging part of spending regular time in God's Word?

- What can you do to enhance your enjoyment of reading the Bible?

- Who in your life has been an example of consistently inputting God's Word into their life?

- Do you have someone in your life who you can regularly talk to about your reading and what God is doing in you? If so, what value have you found in being able to have those discussions? If no, how will you seek out this opportunity?

- How can you keep a perspective of approaching God's Word to know Him, and not just to "read the Bible" or "know the Bible"?

Part 2: Engaging With God In Other Ways

“Engaging with God in other ways” looks at multiple options of spending time with God outside of Bible reading. This does not mean they replace Bible reading, but they are opportunities to connect with God on top of being in His Word. As I said at the beginning of this workbook, spending more time with God, knowing Him, and being drawn to allow Him to lead you should carry itself into all areas of your life. While these disciplines may be seen as existing in a bubble of each of their experiences, they are meant to strengthen your awareness of the ever-present God, who is guiding you in all areas of your life, in all decision you make, and in all interactions you have.

Chapter 8: CHURCH

Pray for focus and for God to speak to you as you read 1 Corinthians 12

What do these verses say about the church as a whole?

What implications do these verses have on you in context of the church?

What is God saying to you specifically through these verses?

Reflection questions from “Church”

- What is the most challenging part about getting connected?

- What can you do to discipline yourself to be more known and to know others more?

- What areas of serving can you involve yourself in the church?

- What is keeping you from greater involvement?

- How can you participate in being a supernaturally loving community?

Activity- Spend time praying for your church leadership and the impact your church community is making in building God's Kingdom. Pray for Godly wisdom. Pray for your involvement in the church body. Pray each time you go to the church gathering that you would be focused on glorifying God and helping others see His love. Make this a regular practice.

ASSESSMENT: THE CHURCH



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- What helped you proceed through that “blockage” to worship?
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- What does it look like for you to worship God outside the weekend church gathering? In your work? At home?
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- How do you best engage in worship?
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- How can you engage in worship with the extreme love and submission God deserves?
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Activity- Take time to observe the things you really enjoy. How can you make these acts of worship?

Prior to the “singing worship” in church, pray your heart is focused on God and praising Him, and not the many distractions that can take attention away from that goal. Make this a regular practice.

ASSESSMENT: WORSHIPER



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- What about “the Lord’s Prayer” as a pattern, stood out to you the most? Why?

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- Which of the listening practices have you tried? How was that experience?

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- Who is someone you know that loves to pray?

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- Ask them what they do to foster a passion for prayer and write down what you learned.

Activity- At least 4 times this week, spend time practicing the different ways to pray: writing out your prayer free-flowing, writing out a prayer patterned after the Lord’s prayer, writing a note from God to you, and praying out loud.

- What do you think would be the greatest benefit of meditation?

- Take time to slowly, deeply reflect on what you are thankful to God for.

- As you reflect on your thankfulness, did anything come to your mind that surprised you?

- Do you think using your imagination will be easy or difficult for you? Why?

- What do you think imagination could do to enhance your interaction with God?

- What might God be showing you about Himself as you practice this discipline?

- What might He be trying to show you about yourself?

Activity- Choose a verse, write it down, and take it with you wherever you go. Set a reminder on your phone to read the verse every hour or so for the entire week. As you read the verse calm your mind and really focus on the words, asking God to allow His Word to resonate in your heart and mind.

- How has your perspective changed after reading this?

- What do you think about the idea of “eagerly entering into confession”?

- Do you have someone you trust with your confessions?

- Explain the difference between confession and truly repentant confession (true confession).

Activity- Take time to do a “sin inventory” of your life. Without hesitation prayerfully ask God to expose any and all sins in your life. Write down whatever comes to mind. Take time to prayerfully, and out loud, confess each sin to God, asking for forgiveness. If there are any you’ve written down that you feel prompted to confess to others do so.

- If you were to fast, what would you fast from and what would you fast for?

- Have you ever known anyone who has fasted? Ask them about their experience and write down some highlights.

Activity- Set aside at least 24 hours sometime this week to fast, focusing on God. Journal about your experience after.

- The purpose of Christian solitude isn't to be alone; it's to be alone with God. What would it look like to have fruitful solitude with God? What would you need/need to do?

- What is keeping you from regular solitude with God, and how can you eliminate that barrier? (Remember it may be 5-10 minutes, don't automatically think this is an all-day exercise.)

Activity- Create some space this week for Solitude. It could be an hour, it could be a whole day, but get away somewhere quiet. Put your phone on "do not disturb". Begin with prayer, telling God this time is set aside for Him to speak. Open your Bible, or listen to a Bible app for a little, then sit with your journal open and write down your thoughts/ what God brings to mind. Enjoy just being with God.

- A Christian's life should be filled with celebration. Why do you think we're not known for our celebration, and how can you be a person known for living in celebration?

- How would your relationship with God be affected if you practiced celebration more?

Activity- Schedule a time with friends to celebrate what God has done in your life. Share recent and past stories of how you've seen Him work.

- How have you grown through serving?

- If you aren't serving somewhere, what is keeping you from it?

- What talents and resources do you have that you can use to serve others?

- Would others look at how you spend your time and resources and say, "you are a servant"? Why or why not?

Activity- If you're not serving somewhere, sign up to serve somewhere consistently at your church.

ASSESSMENT: SERVANT



- Is there someone in your life right now from whom you can seek guidance? What do you need to do to make that happen?

- Is there someone in your life right now to whom you can offer guidance? What do you need to do to make that happen?

- What are some qualities that describe the perfect mentor/ guide? Seek that out, and seek to be that.

Activity- Begin praying for opportunities to be guided and to guide others in their relationship with God.

Part 3: Drive the truck

Chapter 18: SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Write down the results of you Spiritual Gift test:

Spend time praying about how God wants you to put these to use.

Reflection questions from “Spiritual Gifts.”

- Have you put you spiritual gifts to use? If not, what are some talents that you have that God might want to use to bring Himself glory?

- Whether a new concept or not—how does your perspective change knowing that God’s Spirit dwells inside of you and He wants to empower you to do “even greater things”?

- How do you think your community and the world would be different if Christians engaged in their spiritual gifts?

- Who is someone you see and think, “God is using them”? What is it about their lives that makes you think that?

- What did your spiritual gifts tests reveal about you? Was there anything surprising?

- What do you need to involve yourself in to see if your assumed gifts are your actual gifts?

- Who can you seek advice from when it comes to Spiritual gifts?

Activity- Have someone close to you complete one of the Spiritual Gift tests for YOU. Discuss your results with them and how you can (Or how you already) put them to use.

- Who do you see in your life that can be a mentor? What is it about them that makes them “mentor” material?

- What would it take for you to ask to be mentored, and what would you want mentorship to look like?

Activity- Pray that God brings you someone who can mentor you and seek that out. Share with someone who will commit to praying for you and encourage you as you develop intentional relationship.

- If you had to list the reasons you don't want to/can't mentor others, what would your top two excuses be? How do those excuses align with God's Word?

- On a scale of 0-10 ("0" meaning no integrity to "10" full of integrity), how would you rank your integrity? Why that number?

- In what areas of your life, specifically, do you need to move up your integrity number?

- How can you surround yourself with a mentor to increase your integrity? Name that person and write down what you need to talk to them about...then do it.

- Who has God surrounded you with that you need to be intentional in getting to know?

- How can you "practice mentorship" this week?

Spend time praying about what God wants you to do and who God might want you to mentor.

Activity- Begin to have conversations with those God has placed on your heart, inviting them to meet regularly to talk about life and faith.

ASSESSMENT: CONNECTOR



Reflection questions from “How To Mentor”

- Of the mentoring options—Bible study, topic, accountability, life processing—which do you think you’d be best at? Why?

- Which do you think you’d be the worst at? Why?

- Which would you like to be mentored in? Why?

- What do you like about each different style of mentorship?

- What is keeping you from mentoring someone else?

Chapter 22: MAKING YOUR MENTORSHIP WORK

- Who is someone in your life who asks great questions? What is it that makes them great question askers?

- How do you feel after you've talked to that person? Why is that?

- How are you with asking questions, and what can you do to improve?

- Does asking tough questions come easy for you, or is it difficult? Why do you think that is?

- Where might your “curse of knowledge” affect your mentorship? What can you do to fight it?

- What do you like to do in your free time or what do you enjoy that you may be able to invite someone you're mentoring to do along with you?

- How do you typically deal with silence in a conversation? Why?

- Between follow up and follow through: which is more difficult for you? Why? What can you do to improve on each of these?

- Who might God be calling you to pour into?

Activity- Continue to seek to mentor someone else (Share your heart in wanting to grow in Christ with them and allow your mentorship to be a co-growth activity- in other words grow together).

- Does “pointing out the obvious” help reframe how you approach evangelism? Talk about that.

- Who are three people you will be praying for, asking God for the opportunity to develop an intentional relationship?

- What was most helpful in this chapter for you?

- What did God stir in you as you read this?

Activity- Write down the names of people you will regularly pray for, who you want to follow Jesus, asking God for an opportunity to talk about your relationship with Him. Put these names somewhere you will see them daily to make sure you are diligent in praying. Be ready to respond when those opportunities come, prayerfully seeking God’s strength and boldness to talk about Jesus.

ASSESSMENT: WITNESS



Chapter 24: LIVE IT OUT

What do you need to do to make sure you don't fall back into the traps of your fears? Of apathy?

Who can you call right now to help you continue to fully live out your faith?

Who is someone you can take through this material to help them develop their faith?

Activity- Take someone, or a group through this and use it as your mentoring guide.

ASSESSMENT: STEWARD



ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Spiritual Maturity Assessment

Thanks so much for taking this spiritual maturity assessment! This evaluation is set up to help you see where you are in your relationship with God and how the impacts your life. The questions you will be answering will fall into one of 9 categories-

1) Core beliefs.....	52
2) Biblical Engagement.....	53
3) The Church	54
4) Worshiper.....	55
5) Servant.....	56
6) Connector	57
7) Witness.....	58
8) Steward	59

Each category will be evaluated and you will be given immediate feedback as to where your answers place you in your spiritual maturity. We have assigned “life stage” names to these descriptions because the terms are easy to understand in their correlation to the functions of life. In sequence from youngest to ideal-

- 1) Not Yet Alive
- 2) Spiritual Infant
- 3) Spiritual Child
- 4) Spiritual Young Adult
- 5) Spiritual Parent

The titles we’ve given are not meant to insult you, but to correlate with “life stages” and draw an awareness to opportunities to move to the next stage of life.

This is meant to be a helpful assessment, and to get the proper results you must be honest with your answers. Read each statement slowly and evaluate your actions and attitudes. Do not answer what you think the answer should be, or what you wish would describe you.

At the end of each assessment, you will be given a description that summarizes your answers, your next steps and a description of what God ultimately wants you to become.

How to Interact with the Results

After you receive your score, note your percentage in the area below the title and revisit the test each year to measure your growth. Although the assessment will tell you where your answers place you, and next steps, use the guide here to read about each step to understand each stage of progression.

- 1) The “INVITATION” is what you can do to help you progress in your growth. As with all growth opportunities, these are to be done with prayer, asking God to grow you in these areas. Do not think that these actions in themselves will grow you, they need to be done with God. *
- 2) The “Spiritual Parent”. This is what we desire you to move towards- using your experience and heart to disciple others. As you read where you are, be sure to read the section labeled “Spiritual Parent (IDEAL= WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO BECOME) which will give you a target of what to grow towards. *

*Please know that growing in Christ-likeness is primarily about knowing Jesus and loving Him. While “INVITATION” gives some practical application to understanding what growth means and gives tools for implementation, these are worthless without a deepening love and appreciation of God. In no way do these results and suggestions assume that the movement of growth is dependent on you. They are there to make you aware of where you are and equip you to place things in your life to help foster a love of Jesus that leads to joyful obedience...

**So, at the beginning of every “INVITATION,” know the initial, and continual, answer to, “What is needed for growth?” is:
A deepening understanding and acceptance of God’s love for you. A deepening love for God and the Holy Spirit’s power in and through you.**

There is space included to put your percentage score for the next few years, to revisit the assessment each year to show your progress.

CORE BELIEFS-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section is different than the other assessments because each belief statement is core to Christian belief, so it is either 100% agreement, or there is something flawed in your understanding of who God is, who Jesus is, and what He accomplished through His life, death and resurrection, as well as His teaching. You would be scored with less than 100% agreement if you answered anything other than “Agree” for each question. If you said “neither agree or disagree” it could simply reveal a lack of understanding rather than an outright rejection, but it may also reveal an outright rejection. All that to say: Any discrepancy should be explored, reflected on, and pursued for understanding both the truth of the statement and the implications on your life.

MISALIGNED (0-99%)

One or more of your answers revealed that your beliefs don't align with core Christian beliefs. Even if it is only a question (or a few) that misalign: THIS IS A BIG DEAL. Each statement was an essential statement to correct belief in Jesus and the teaching of scripture.

Please continue to explore which answer(s) you got wrong with searching the Bible, getting Godly counsel, and prayer.

ALIGNMENT (100%)

You agree with the core beliefs of Christianity. Now, there needs to be two significant cautions:

#1) Belief God is more than just a mental agreement, it is life alignment. Agreeing with the core beliefs, doesn't mean you actually believe. Belief is evidenced in life alignment with the beliefs.

#2) Listed were core beliefs, but that does not mean “secondary” beliefs are insignificant. In fact, a lack of adherence to secondary beliefs might be the evidence of unbelief. Things such as ignoring sin, believing Jesus is the only way with the caveat that “the only way” means all beliefs lead to Him, and/or interpreting the Bible to justify your actions, all show that your “core” belief is self-defined, and not actually a Biblically aligned core belief.

Continue to humbly pursue God, be part of a Bible- teaching community that unashamedly aligns their lives to the fullness of God's Word. Do so humbly knowing you've been called to be full of grace and truth, and a light to the world.

BIBLICAL ENGAGEMENT-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures how often and serious you take reading God's Word.

Not Yet Alive (0-20%)

It appears you have no belief in the Bible as God's Word, and no moral guidance gained from the Bible.

INVITATION= To be introduced to the fullness of who Jesus is and what He has done with help to understand what role the Bible plays in the life of those who follow Him. To accept Jesus as your Lord who died for your sins.

Spiritual Infant (21-42%)

It appears you've accepted Jesus as your savior but have a very minimal understanding of what the Bible is and how it is supposed to guide every area of your life.

INVITATION= To seek someone to help you understand what the Bible is, why it's important and how we read it (not just to learn about stories and principles, but to help us love God more and live for Him).

Spiritual Child (43-71%)

You understand the value and importance of the Bible, holding it in high regard, but are not regularly reading and studying it for yourself. Bible knowledge still comes mainly from other's teaching and application of the Word is spotty.

INVITATION = Find tools and accountability to engage in Bible read regularly, and prayerfully. Finding a group of believers to go through a Bible study would be very helpful to you.

Spiritual Young Adult (72-92%)

Reading the Bible is a regular part of your life, and you read it not just to know about what it says, but to seek a deeper relationship with God. You may not have the tools needed to navigate some of the more complex ideas of the Bible

INVITATION = Find someone, and resources, you trust and seek the answers to the things you don't understand. Continue to read the Bible with the right intention- growing in God, and not just because you should. Find someone to talk to about what God is teaching you through your engagement in His Word.

Spiritual Parent (93-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT GOD ULTIMATELY WANTS YOU TO BECOME)

Reading the Bible is foundational to your life and you have a good grasp of how the Bible is all tied together in Jesus. You have the tools and "know how" in seeking proper information when clarification is needed. Your life is submitted to Jesus, and the Bible is precious to you.

INVITATION = Take the understanding you have and seek to disciple others in their understanding and enthusiasm of the Bible, and how to apply it.

THE CHURCH-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures how you interact with the Body of Christ (the church) both in your perspective, participation, and opportunities.

Not Yet Alive (0-21%)

You probably don't go to church, or only on special occasions.

INVITATION = To come to know and follow Jesus and see that He has called Christians to form the church (a group of believers centered on Christ).

Spiritual Infant (22-44%)

It appears you have a low value of church and see church as a human institution that is either an inconvenience, or a "nice extra" but not essential to your life.

INVITATION = To see that Jesus established the Church and we are called to center our lives around living for Jesus in community. To understand that the "church" is the "body of Christ"-the continual expression of God's love to the world and that together the church is more than a weekend event but is a fuller expression of Jesus to the World.

Spiritual Child (45-72%)

Going to church is semi-regular, you may even be serving some time, but you are still not committedly consistent. The primary evaluation of church is "what I get out of it." For many reasons, there may be a struggle of not wanting to "go to church." Finding issues with the church comes easy.

INVITATION = Remember you have been called to be the church, that people are difficult, but we are called beyond the difficulty into the bond and unity of Christ, to build one another up and show the world a greater love. To move from a self-centered evaluation of church to a God-centered view that moves you into deeper community.

Spiritual Young Adult (73-88%)

You committedly attend, participate in and serve at church. You see the church as an avenue to connect, encourage and grow with others, worship God, and be reminded of God's truth. You understand that church is not here to serve your needs but is here for you to participate in building God's kingdom.

INVITATION = Seek opportunities to build God's kingdom (don't wait for the church programs). Seek others to disciple and use your gifts. Serving in church is crucial, but discipleship is more holistic than the moments the church organizes. Take your passions for Christ to your neighbors, co-workers, and classmates.

Spiritual Parent (89-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT GOD ULTIMATELY WANTS YOU TO BECOME)

You are regular church participators. You come to church on Sunday's thinking, "how can I serve and encourage others during this time." You evaluate a church based on it's adherence to scripture and the promotion of Jesus, and look for ways to partner with the church to evangelize to non-Christians, and grow Christians. You see church gathering as a launching point to "be the church" in your community the rest of the week.

INVITATION = You need to continue to be encouraged in what you're doing and how you are living for Christ. Make sure your work for Him does not leave behind your dependence on Him. Bring others along, in discipleship, to show them how your passion for Jesus and His Church is cultivated and lived out.

WORSHIPER-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures how you view and live out all areas of your life as a worshiper of God.

Not Yet Alive (0-21%)

It appears you believe that Christianity is about being good and getting your life together, and you haven't accepted Jesus as your savior.

INVITATION= To know who Jesus is, what He has done, and that Christianity is about a relationship with God. To give your life to Jesus, confessing Him as God and Savior who died for your sins and rose from the dead.

Spiritual Infant (22-44%)

You have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, but the idea of an ever-present, loving, relationship with Christ is not how you would describe your interaction with Him. At this stage being a Christ follower looks more like "cultural Christianity," in that you believe in Jesus, but that has little to no effect on your life.

INVITATION = Find people who deeply love Jesus to disciple you in a growing relationship with Him. To grow in wonder and awe of God that elevates your passion and love for Jesus to transform all areas of your life into an act of worship.

Spiritual Child (45-72%)

Your relationship with God is growing, but most of the growth is coming from a sense of obligation rather than a deep passion for the Lord. Worship is probably still seen as singing, or as something done at church, rather than a whole life posture towards God.

INVITATION = Continue to grow in your relationship with God, but be careful to evaluate your motives for your actions. If you are pursuing God out of religious duty rather than love, prayerfully ask God to center your motives on a love for Him. Understand that worship (giving God the glory and honor he deserves) should permeate every area of life.

Spiritual Young Adult (73-88%)

Generally, your life is defined by love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control. There Fruit of the Spirit are evidence of a lifestyle of worship- looking to glorify and honor God in all areas of your life. A sense of the Holy Spirit's presence guides most all of your interactions.

INVITATION = Continue to pursue a life of worship and bring others with you- disciple them in how you live with the Holy Spirit as your guide. Don't leave that up to the pastor to do- you are part of the priesthood of believers- start discipling others.

Spiritual Parent (89-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT GOD ULTIMATELY WANTS YOU TO BECOME)

The Fruit of the Spirit is so evident in your life that others know you love and are motivated by Jesus. Most, if not all, areas of your life are flavored in worship- glorifying and honoring God with your thoughts, actions, and pursuits. Not only are you a worshiper, but you are also helping others live as worshipers.

INVITATION = To continue to disciple and train others in growing in love and glorifying God with all areas of their lives.

SERVANT-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures how you see serving, how you participate in serving, and your heart for using your life as a servant.

Not Yet Alive (0-19%)

It appears you have no relationship with God so serving others from a Godly perspective doesn't exist. You may serve but it's not from a heart for Jesus.

INVITATION = To come to know and accept that God (Jesus) came down to earth, to serve us, and His servant-ness cost him his life. He did this out of love for you.

Spiritual Infant (20-40%)

For many reasons you may feel they are not ready to serve. Church attendance is the extent of your involvement and if you don't mature in your thinking, you will become a perpetual attendee and not move to participators. You may not understand that serving is a significant growth opportunity for you.

INVITATION = Church is evaluated by "what I get out of it" and you need to understand that church is about the body of believers participating with one another, to pour into one another, and that serving is a route to growth. You need to know, that being a servant isn't just something you do at church, it's a lifestyle, a way to live- to serve all those around you.

Spiritual Child (41-70%)

Serving is inconsistent. Perhaps when the church makes a plea for a short-term need, but there is a lack of regular commitment to serving. When serving you may take on a supporting role, never leading anything. If you serve somewhere you may think "that's it, I'm a servant," rather than understanding being a servant is about who you are not just what you do.

INVITATION = Ask God to grow your heart of service. Seek opportunities to committedly serve in the church. Prayerfully reflect on your heart for. Seek opportunities outside of the church to serve others. You need to know, feeling "not ready" should draw you to a greater dependence on God, not a lack of service.

Spiritual Young Adult (71-85%)

You actively and regularly serve others. Serving is a natural outpouring of your relationship with God, even when you don't feel like it. You both respond to and seek opportunities to serve others both in and outside the church. Your motivation is: because you love Jesus.

INVITATION = Look for opportunities to encourage other to serve. Don't just serve, bring others along with you and share, with them, the joy of serving. Help others understand their unique, God given gifts God and how that can be used both inside and outside the church.

Spiritual Parent (85-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT GOD ULTIMATELY WANTS YOU TO BECOME)

You are regularly serving others both inside and outside the church and are often eager to lead others in serving. Your eyes are open for opportunities to serve those in your life. Your motivation to serve comes from your love of God and you wish others would have a passion to serve.

INVITATION = To disciple others as you serve. Call others to serve alongside with you and help those you are serving with grow a passion for Jesus that leads to serving in all areas of their lives.

CONNECTOR-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures your involvement in connected with others with God-centered intentionality.

Not Yet Alive (0-21%)

It appears you believe that Christianity is about being good and getting your life together, and you haven't accepted Jesus as your savior.

INVITATION = To know who Jesus is, what He has done, and that Christianity is about a relationship with God. To give your life to Jesus, confessing Him as God and Savior who died for your sins and rose from the dead. To know that confession invites you into Christian community- The Church.

Spiritual Infant (22-43%)

You have accepted Jesus as savior but still see the need to connect with other believers as insignificant. Being a Christ follower looks more like "cultural Christianity" in that you believe in Jesus, but that decision is "personal" and hasn't drawn you to investing in the community of believers.

INVITATION = To know that the calling to follow Jesus is inextricably tied to participating in a community of believers. Following Jesus is done in community- both for your own growth, for the growth of others, and to more fully express the love of Christ through the body of believers.

Spiritual Child (44-72%)

Your view of connecting with other believers focuses on the social aspect without the intentionality of Jesus-centeredness. There is a hesitation of growing together in Christ (sharing struggles, seeking accountability, working together to share the Gospel). If other things get in the way (busyness), connecting within the Church loses out.

INVITATION = Jesus calls us to connect, intentionally with one another, not to keep us busy, but to know and be known by one another to encourage each other to living for Jesus. Yes, connecting with others takes time and can be hard, but it is crucial for growing our faith. Find a place to deeply connect.

Spiritual Young Adult (73-86%)

You are involved with a community of Christians who are grow in Christ together. Your love for God draws you into relationships with others to help them grow. You know that connecting is something you don't wait to happen, you make happen.

INVITATION = Look for those who are not connected or less connected and personally invite them to plug in. Remember Christian community is not here for a "holy huddle" but to move us all beyond the church walls to living our Christian faith in a way that effects those outside of church. Teach and show others what it means to be a connector.

Spiritual Parent (87-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT WE WANT TO HELP YOU BECOME)

You have a solid relationship with Jesus which has you helping others connect with one another and with Jesus. You are involved in discipling others in church and look for opportunities to do so outside of church. You have a good group of Godly friends who continually encourage you to live for Jesus. When you come into the church gathering your eyes are open for those who aren't connected, helping them connect.

INVITATION = Disciple others to be like you in the way you connect. Find one or two people and bring them along as you connect with others. Know that being a connector is not just about people connecting with you, but ultimately about them connecting with others to connect with God

WITNESS-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures your involvement in sharing the Gospel with others.

Not Yet Alive (0-20%)

You probably have no relationship with Jesus so talking about Him with others is not part of your life.

INVITATION = You need to be shown that Jesus loves you and invites you into a relationship with Him. You need to believe in Him and follow Him.

Spiritual Infant (21-42%)

Your faith may be new or old, but the outward production of your faith is still minimal, especially when it comes to sharing your faith. When you have opportunities to share fear usually keeps you silent.

INVITATION = Find someone to help in develop your understanding and love of the Jesus as well as your confidence and conviction in sharing the Gospel.

Spiritual Child (43-71%)

In some (or many) ways your life reflects Jesus, and you may think your evangelism is simply carried out by how you live. You may invite people to church. Talking about your relationship and love of Jesus probably makes you nervous, but when a clear opportunity to talk about Jesus presents itself, you will.

INVITATION = You need to be encouraged and reminded to not depend on the church to do the “evangelizing” but to seek opportunities to talk about your relationship with Jesus. Tools and instruction on how to start conversations about Jesus may be helpful too.

Spiritual Young Adult (72-92%)

You may still be nervous about sharing your faith but do so anyways with joy and boldness. Those in your life know you are a Christian not just because you go to church, but because you talk about your relationship with Jesus and invite others to follow Him.

INVITATION = There may still be too much of a reliance on the church to evangelize, so you need to be reminded that the Spirit dwells in you and has empowered you to share the Gospel with those around you.

Spiritual Parent (92-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT WE WANT TO HELP YOU BECOME)

You are eager and looking for opportunities to talk about Jesus and invite other to follow Him. You have a firm understanding that God has empowered you to share the Gospel and all of your relationships are seen through an eternal lens: praying for and pursuing all your relationships with a desire for them to come to know Jesus.

INVITATION = To bring along and teach other Christians to share the Gospel. To share the both the highs and lows of sharing the Gospel and reminding those you are training to depend on the Spirit as you share- the results are God's not our own.

STEWARD-

My percentage this year ___ year 2 ___ year 3 ___ year 4 ___

This section measures the way you approach and handle your all your resources in submission to God.

Not Yet Alive (0-19%)

It appears that you don't have a relationship with God so your interest in the how God calls us to handle your time, talent, and treasures is of no or very little value to you.

INVITATION = To understand and accept God's abundant gift of Jesus Christ's sacrifice and come to know that what Jesus asks of us is because he wants the best for us.

Spiritual Infant (20-40%)

It seems you have a low appreciation of how your use of time, talents, and money reflects and affects your relationship with God. You may be uncomfortable when the church talks about money, time usage, or getting more involved. Your giving is probably very sporadic, if at all.

INVITATION = To grow in this area you need to better understand that God says the way you steward resources has significant ties to your heart. Budgeting for the first time or allocate both time and money to God may be first steps. You need to realize money isn't a bad thing, but it is dangerous when not seen and interacted with in a Godly way. You may need some accountability to in this area.

Spiritual Child (41-70%)

Giving is not consistent and often comes because of a sense of guilt or a lack of joy. Giving (time/ talent/ money) comes with an expectation of how church should serve you. Giving may not be built into your budget and while there may be an understanding of the significance of our relationship between God and money your actions may not reflect that.

INVITATION = Find a spiritual mentor to ask the tough questions about finances. Seek ways to evaluate and budget (time/ talents/ money). You may need to find tools to structure your giving and accountability to continue.

Spiritual Young Adult (71-85%)

Giving is a regular practice for you and planned for and committed to in your budget. Though giving is mainly seen as an act of obedience and it is usually not done with great joy. You understand that stewardship is not just about money, but all areas of your life.

INVITATION = Find someone who you see as stewarding all areas of their lives for God's kingdom and ask them to help you refine your stewardship. Seek to help others do the same. Praying that God would give you a heart of joyful giving.

Spiritual Parent (86-100%) (IDEAL= WHAT GOD ULTIMATELY WANTS YOU TO BECOME)

You could be described as joyfully sacrificial givers. You understand that all you have is a gift from God and deeply desire to use the resources God has given you to build his Kingdom. There is no great use of your money than this.

INVITATION = To seek those who are less spiritually mature and be bold and humble about sharing your journey in becoming a joyfully sacrificial giver. You need to know that teaching others is a discipleship opportunity and the value of sharing your heart helps people see the act of joyfully, regularly using your resources for God's Kingdom is a significant part of aligning their life with Jesus.