

Focus Questions

Worship

- How do I experience God's presence in worship?
- What keeps me from encountering God in worship?

Connecting

- How do I help people develop positive relationships and experience authentic Christian community at my church?
- How do I forgive others as I ask for forgiveness?

Growing

- What is my plan for increasing my understandings of scripture and the teachings of Jesus?
- What would Jesus say to me about how I lived today?
- How am I going to make my life more attuned to the example of Christ?

Serving

- How willing am I to prioritize my life in order to be free to follow God's direction for my life and resources?

Reaching

- What am I doing to prepare myself to answer questions about Christianity?
- How do I find opportunities to encourage others to seek a relationship with God through Jesus Christ?

Do you see any patterns? Is there one key value in which you are particularly strong? Are you involved in some kind of ministry in that area? You may be able to offer leadership or service to others in your area of strength. Is there a key value in which you are particularly weak? Perhaps you want to consider learning more about that area, pursuing a class or a mentoring relationship that will help you fill that gap. Use this questionnaire on a regular basis to monitor your growth as a disciple of Jesus.

3

Stepping Stones



- Attend worship each weekend (unless ill)
- Give and receive support and authentic accountability in a group ministry of some kind as I progress in "the way".
- Establish a discipline of daily prayer, scripture, and contemplation.
- Volunteer at least six hours per year supporting the worship or teaching programs of the First United Methodist Church.
- Volunteer at least six hours per year to supporting outreach ministries (i.e. mission trips, Habitat for Humanity, Matthew's Hope, etc).
- Supporting my church with financial giving, with a goal of tithing, as I live out my beliefs.
- Continue to evaluate my own spiritual growth using the Personal Spiritual Inventory periodically and by prayerfully considering my progress on a daily basis.

Committed to My Christian Path...

I am evaluating the next step on my discipleship path by completing this inventory. I commit to working to improve in at least one area of Christian life, and I challenge myself to use the Stepping Stones of Discipleship along the way.

This inventory is mine to keep

Date

4

Progress on Your Path...



Personal Spiritual Inventory Tool

Each person's path with Jesus is very individual, but we all want to live more as Jesus taught: "I am the way, the truth and the life." (John 14:6)

The following questionnaire is a tool to help you see your strengths as well as opportunities for growth in becoming the disciple God calls you to be.

We hope this information will be useful as you choose activities to further your own spiritual development.



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Our Mission: Building Life-Changing Christian Relationships

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

-- Matthew 28:19-20

1

As you read each description below, ask yourself how well the description fits you in your daily life and assign a value:

1 - not at all or never 2 - not much or rarely 3 - somewhat or occasionally 4 - mostly or often 5 - completely or always

WORSHIPPING: *We believe God is worthy of our very best, so a growing spirit of excellence that draws others to Jesus Christ permeates every activity we do.*

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
1. I see and worship God in all of my daily activities.
 2. I prepare my spirit so that I arrive at church ready to worship God with awe, humility and gratitude.
 3. I experience God's presence regularly while worshipping with others.
 4. I truly experience joy when I'm worshipping God.

CONNECTING: *We believe genuine love and nurturing relationships are key to the life of every task.*

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
1. I seek to be open to all kinds of people.
 2. I am comfortable allowing others to love and care for me.
 3. I spend time with my church friends outside of church activities.
 4. I pray regularly for my church and its members.
 5. I resist and discourage gossip, complaining/negativity at church in general.

GROWING: *We believe prayer and Bible study are essential to a deepening relationship with God and each other.*

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
1. I regularly spend time in personal Bible study.
 2. I regularly participate in a group Bible study and discussion.
 3. I am familiar enough with scripture to know where to find guidance, for myself and others.
 4. I have a clear understanding of my spiritual beliefs and can explain them.
 5. I have a close relationship with someone who holds me accountable for tying my behavior to my beliefs.
 6. I use the scriptures and biblical teachings to help me make daily decisions and choices.
 7. I seek to please God with all I think, say and do.
 8. I consistently communicate with God in prayer, seeking God's will in my life.
 9. I am open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

SERVING: *We believe every Christian is a minister and has been given gifts for ministry, which must be discovered, developed, and deployed within a team of other ministers.*

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1. I know and use my spiritual gifts.
 2. I have set aside a specific amount of my free time for serving others and my church.
 3. I treat the people I serve as children of God.
 4. When confronted with injustice and inequality, I take steps to counter them.
 5. I joyfully give a tithe of my income back to God's work at my church.
 6. I am a good steward of my time, money, talents and skills for the benefit of God's will.

REACHING: *We believe the most effective evangelism occurs through an individual's unique presentation of Jesus Christ in one-on-one relationships.*

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
1. I intentionally seek opportunities to invite others to church.
 2. I am able to share my faith in Jesus Christ so that others may come to know the Lord.
 3. I build relationships outside my church family, seeking opportunities to share my faith.
 4. I regularly pray for people I know who do not have a relationship with Christ.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." - John 14:6