

FOX RIVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH:
SPIRITUAL GROWTH SELF-ASSESSMENT SURVEY

A. Why This Spiritual Growth Self-Assessment Matters

Most of us are only vaguely aware of the specific ways we fall short as we try to grow into Fully Devoted Followers of Christ. We know we miss the mark but rarely turn that awareness into regular reflection that helps us grow. When we are not thinking about our spiritual development, we usually do little to move it forward. A key to spiritual growth is to undertake a Spiritual Growth Self-Assessment. This provides a guide for a personal customized spiritual growth plan to help you see where you are, where you need to focus and how to take manageable steady steps toward a deeper and more fulfilling personal relationship with God.

B. How the Confidential Self-Assessment System Works

Self-Assessment requires some means of measurement by which one can evaluate how he or she is progressing in his or her spiritual growth. Our church's Mission Statement provides a basis for such measurements in the four crucial relationships known as the Marks of Discipleship.

1. Connecting with God
2. Connecting with other believers
3. Connecting with others through serving their needs
4. Connecting with persons outside the faith through sharing Christ

Commencing on page 3, the Spiritual Growth Self-Assessment survey asks several questions with respect to each of these four relationships. (*Note* – the category of Connecting with God is divided into two categories: worship and other spiritual disciplines.) Based upon the scale provided, simply circle the number reflecting your response to each question. Total the circled numbers for each section and transfer each total to the Self Rating Sheet on pages 8-9 under the column for that relationship. Insert the number on the row whose numbers in the parentheses include your total number. The italicized heading in that row indicates approximately where you are in your spiritual journey with respect to that particular relationship.

Based upon the results, select one or two areas upon which you might best focus your next spiritual growth efforts whether individually, as a participant in a small group, or through some program/ministry offerings of the church.

Periodically repeat the Self-Assessment Survey evaluation survey (e.g., every 3 months) and compare it to previous results. For this purpose, keep both your question pages (pp. 3-7) and the rating sheet (p.8) to compare with future results. This provides a sense of your spiritual growth or lack thereof and suggests where to go next.

C. How the Church Can Support Your Spiritual Growth

Although optional, provide, (*anonymously if you prefer*) copies of these pages to the church (or directly to Pastor Lonnie). Such information could be extremely valuable for church efforts to support persons efforts to grow toward a more Christ-life life in thoughts, feelings and actions.

The final page 10 asks (1) for your suggestions as to what type of church offerings would assist you in your spiritual growth journey, (2) whether you would like a personal and private visit with Pastor Lonnie with respect to your spiritual growth and (3) where will you try to advance your walk with Christ in your thoughts, feelings and actions. This will provide insight for potential small groups to address.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH SELF-ASSESSMENT

Scale: 0 = Just Beginning

1 = Fair

2 = Making Progress

3 = Getting Good

4 = Well Developed

CONNECTING WITH GOD: PURSUING A LOVING AND AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

Worship Services

Can I express a clear understanding of the purposes of worship? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I understand and practice preparation for worship? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I regularly attend worship services either in person or on-line? 0 1 2 3 4

Does the worship service engage my concentrated attention? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I sense the presence of God during the worship service? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I sense worship services shaping me into a more
Christian person? 0 1 2 3 4

TOTAL

Other Spiritual Disciplines

Have I undertaken a real effort to understand what different spiritual disciplines are about? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I know and practice regularly one or more spiritual discipline(s)? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I believe the Bible is credible? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I regularly spend time in God's Word? 0 1 2 3 4

Have I learned how to effectively study the Bible and apply its teachings to my life? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I understand the nature of and different types of prayer? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I pray regularly either in person or online? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I regularly seek a deep silence to enable my own thoughts and hear God's voice? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I trust God, or do I primarily focus my life on comfort, success and/or approval? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I follow Jesus for who he is rather than for what I want Him to do for me? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I believe that in tough times, when life gets hard, painful and uncertain, I am not alone and that God's love has the final word? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I sense a deepening friendship with God? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I have a personal plan and process to progress in my walk with Christ? 0 1 2 3 4

TOTAL

**CONNECTING WITH OTHER BELIEVERS:
LOVING AND SHARING LIFE TOGETHER**

Am I willing to share my real needs for prayer and support from others? 0 1 2 3 4

Am I growing in my ability to share and show my love toward others? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I *regularly* connect with other believers through sharing life together in a small group(s)? 0 1 2 3 4

If yes, does such group foster spiritual growth toward a more Christ-like life through building mutual relationships of love, encouragement, trust, support, openness, caring, and accountability? 0 1 2 3 4

(Note – score either the above or below question, not both)

If no, am I interested in finding such a small group and/or encouraging others to participate with me in such a group? 0 1 2 3 4

TOTAL

**CONNECTING WITH OTHERS:
LOVINGLY SERVING THEM**

Do I understand the importance of serving others in the Disciple-Making Process? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I regularly pray for opportunities to serve others? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I offer my time, talent and treasure to serve the needs of others in a loving caring way? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I serve others with grace? 0 1 2 3 4

Have I undertaken the steps to discover my gifts and where God wants me to apply them? 0 1 2 3 4

Have I undertaken steps to equip/develop myself for serving? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I participate in a serving ministry of the church the church? 0 1 2 3 4

Do I look for opportunities to serve others? 0 1 2 3 4

TOTAL

**CONNECTING WITH THOSE OUTSIDE THE FAITH:
LOVINGLY REACHING OUT, SHARING THE GOSPEL
AND INVITING THEM INTO CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

Do I understand the importance of evangelism in becoming a Fully Devoted Follower of Christ?	0 1 2 3 4
Do I lovingly care about other peoples' eternal destiny?	0 1 2 3 4
Do I equip myself through knowledge and practice to share God's love to be more effective in evangelism efforts?	0 1 2 3 4
Do I enter into and invest time in personal relationships in a way that may ultimately lead people to Christ?	0 1 2 3 4
Do I regularly pray for God to provide me with opportunities to share His love with persons outside the faith?	0 1 2 3 4
When opportunities arise, do I share the Gospel and/or my story with others?	0 1 2 3 4
Do I regularly invite unchurched people to join me in Christ related experiences such as church gatherings, short term small groups, worship services, etc.?	0 1 2 3 4
Do I participate in church outreach experiences either as a participant or assisting in its conduct?	<u>0 1 2 3 4</u>
TOTAL	

SPIRITUAL GROWTH SELF ASSESSMENT: RATING SHEET

CONNECTING WITH

GOD: (Worship)	GOD: (Other Spiritual Disciplines)	OTHER BELIEVERS	SERVING OTHERS	THOSE OUTSIDE THE FAITH
---------------------------	---	----------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------------------

WELL DEVELOPED

(20-24)	(43-52)	(13-16)	(26-32)	(26-32)
---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

GETTING GOOD

(15-19)	(32-42)	(10-12)	(19-25)	(19-25)
---------	---------	---------	---------	----------

MAKING PROGRESS

(10-15)	(21-31)	(7-9)	(13-18)	(13-18)
---------	---------	-------	---------	---------

FAIR

(5-10)

(11-20)

(4-6)

(7-12)

(7-12)

JUST BEGINNING

(0-4)

(0-10)

(0-3)

(0-6)

(0-6)

**CHURCH ASSISTANCE IN AN
INDIVIUDUAL'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

- 1. WHAT CAN THE CHURCH DO TO BETTER ENCOURAGE, EQUIP AND OR SUPPORT YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH THROUGH, PROGRAMS, EVENTS AND/OR OTHER EXPERIENCES?**

- 2. WOULD YOU LIKE A PRIVATE AND PERSONAL VISIT WITH PASTOR LONNIE CONCERNING YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH JOURNEY TOWARD A MORE CHRIST-LIKE LIFE?**

- 3. IN WHAT AREA(S) AND HOW WILL I TRY TO ADVANCE MY WALK WITH CHRIST BY GROWING TOWARD A MORE CHRIST-LIKE-LIFE IN MY THOUGHTS, FEELINGS AND ACTIONS?**

NAME (OPTIONAL): _____

DATE: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL): _____