

Faith Activity Survey Results

A faith activity survey was undertaken on April 19 after the worship service. The survey was divided into four sections; faith, scriptures, church and life. Each section was designed to shed some light on how well we understand and believe, and how well we apply and do the activities of faith. 73 people filled out the survey and the results are documented as follows.

Faith: We are a strong Bible believing, God seeking people. We believe that Jesus is Lord, and we see how his life, death and resurrection inform our daily lives, not to mention how it affects the end of our life. When it comes to applying our devotion to God, we are strong in the areas of prayer and confessing to God. We do not set aside much time to listen to God though, Bible reading, meditation, and solitude are not our forte. Is this because we are too busy to set aside time for the giver of life?

Scriptures: On a whole we do not give much time to God's Word out of our lives. Our responses to reading our Bibles, from very little to very much, were evenly spread out across the spectrum. Perhaps this explains why we scored much lower in our understanding and application of our faith than in the straightforward question of, do we believe.

Church: The intent of the question concerning 'your church' as being the body of Christ might have gotten lost in translation. Was it intent on discerning our faith about the church being the body of Christ, or was our intent to discern whether you felt like you belonged to this, your church? Over 70 percent of you responded affirmatively – YES! So next year we will need to refine that question, just so we are clear what you are saying yes to. This resounding yes was backed up with many of us giving much of our time to the ongoing 'business' of church. Two thirds of us give 10 hours per month to the church, another 18% give an average of 1 hour per month, and the remaining 16% do not give of their time to the church. We are blessed by everyone's engagement.

The top four reasons for why we attend church are #1 worship, #2 sermon, #3 fellowship, and #4 prayer. These reasons give us cause to praise God, as well, they make us pause to wonder – how well are we actually doing in these four areas?

When it comes to how much we give of our financial resources back to God, either directly to the church, or to other causes, we give an average of 5.3% tithe to the church, and we give 3.1% to further kingdom work. What should or could our giving be like?

Others: We ranked in the mid-range when it comes to our involvement with people outside the church. 20% of us fully engage in sharing our time, faith, or lives with other people, we are by and large hesitant.

So what is it that we have learned by all of this? To say it one way, we are a mature-in-faith community that is still growing in its understanding of what it is that God requires of us. Faith and activity are to go hand in hand, so join us as we continually strive to be all that God has destined us to be – in word and in deed. Please listen to God as he continues to instruct us, and join in the conversations with our elders as they may seek further engagement from you.