



# WHAT HELPS CHRISTIANS GROW?

## Questionnaire

Thank you for undertaking this survey. Your answers are anonymous and will be treated in confidence.

Try to answer each question accurately, but don't take too long over any particular question. Your instincts will often give you the best answer.

**Answering the Questions**

In Parts 1-3, please respond by ticking one box in every row, like this:

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
y faith			✓		
aith		✓			
					✓
				✓	

## PART one: God's calling

### 1.1 I think that...

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
God calls everyone to a particular place, role, or task (a 'calling' or 'vocation').					
God's call is largely the same for everyone.					

### 1.2 I believe that....

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
I have a particular calling					
I don't know what my calling is					
I am resisting or ignoring my calling					
I'm more or less on the journey God wants me to be on.					

## PART two: my journey of faith

### 2.1 Looking back at my life, I would say...

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
during my life, I've seen obvious periods of growth in my faith					
there have been periods of life when I've not grown in faith					
at some times I've been stuck spiritually					
at times I have turned away from my faith					
I have grown in faith through times of loss, difficulty or trial					
new experiences in my life led to times of growth in my faith					
it has been hard to keep my faith, when circumstances changed					

### 2.2 My Christian journey has been hampered by....

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
the commitments of daily life					
the beliefs or attitudes of people close to me					
having no-one to share my journey with					
lack of opportunity to learn or grow					
my own bad habits or laziness					
fear of making a greater commitment					
fear that Christianity is not true or makes no sense					
understanding my faith differently from those around me					
the quality of my church worship/community					
the words of the creed or other articles of faith					
something else: you are welcome to tell us more below					

**2.3 In the course of my life, I have been *helped* in my journey of faith by....**

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Does not apply</i>
Attending church/worship <i>regularly</i>						
Listening to sermons						
Music in church worship						
Liturgy in church worship						
Participating in Communion/Eucharist/Mass/Lord's Supper						
Another aspect of worship (please say what)						
A familiar pattern of worship						
Seasons and shape of the Christian year						
Being part of a small group/bible study group/similar						
Being part of my church's social life/fellowship						
Taking part in my church's outreach (e.g., evangelism <i>and/or</i> social justice projects)						
A Christian course offered by a local church						
Leading others (in worship, Sunday School, small group, prayer etc.)						
Other practical service to my church (please say what)						
Praying by myself						
Reading/studying the Bible by myself						
A spiritual director, mentor, soul friend or prayer guide						
Listening to Christian music on tape, cd, video, radio, TV internet etc.						
Listening to Christian teaching, discussion or talks on tape, cd, video, radio, TV internet etc.						
Reading Christian/spiritual/theological books (other than the Bible)						
Going on retreat						
Taking part in online discussion or conversations (including social media)						

**This question continues over the page....**

**2.3 (continued) In the course of my life, I have been helped in my journey of faith by....**

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Does not apply</i>
Christian conferences, festivals, events or pilgrimages						
Taking part in a social justice/campaigning activity beyond my church						
Taking part in a practical Christian service or mission project not connected with my church						
Christian education provided by a college, university or denomination						
My closest friendships or relationships						
A particular person e.g. missionary, teacher - please state						
Experiencing different churches/Christian spiritualities						
Trying to put my faith into practice in daily life						
Conversations with people whose faith/beliefs are different from mine						
Hobbies, leisure or cultural activities not connected with church						
A direct call or experience I believe was from God						
Other (please state)						

**2.4 Thinking about my Christian growth, I would say...**

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
my current growth as a Christian is independent of the church I attend					

**2.5 I would say that my Christian growth is...**

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
the responsibility of the church I attend					
my own responsibility					

## PART three: faith into practice

### 3.1 The church I attend is good at helping people to...

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
pray deeply in a range of different ways					
understand how to see the world and our times as God sees them					
worship with mind, body and spirit					
explore and understand the Bible					
put faith into practice in daily life					
nurture and care for each other in the church community					
speak about faith or personal journeys					

### 3.2 I feel I am good at...

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Not Certain</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>
praying deeply in a range of different ways					
understanding how to see the world and our times as God sees them					
worshipping with mind, body and spirit					
exploring the Bible					
putting my faith into practice in daily life					
nurturing & caring for others in the church community					
speaking about my faith/personal journey					

## PART four: coming to life

### Answering the Questions

On this page, please answer the questions by ticking **two** statements that most apply to you in each question, like this:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	show someone God's love in a practical way
<input type="checkbox"/>	gain new understanding of the Bible and its teaching
<input type="checkbox"/>	sense God at work in the world beyond my church (e.g., my workplace, neighbourhood)
<input type="checkbox"/>	experience the power of the Holy Spirit moving within me
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	feel God helping me to become more Christlike in my thoughts, words and actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	feel close to God in prayer, meditation or silence
<input type="checkbox"/>	experience God through those around me, in fellowship, conversation or activity

#### 4.1 I feel most alive as a Christian when I...

<input type="checkbox"/>	show someone God's love in a practical way
<input type="checkbox"/>	gain new understanding of the Bible and its teaching
<input type="checkbox"/>	sense God at work in the world beyond my church (e.g., my workplace, neighbourhood)
<input type="checkbox"/>	experience the power of the Holy Spirit moving within me
<input type="checkbox"/>	feel God helping me to become more Christlike in my thoughts, words and actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	feel close to God in prayer, meditation or silence
<input type="checkbox"/>	experience God through those around me, in fellowship, conversation or activity

#### 4.2 I felt a church community I have belonged to was most 'alive' when we were...

<input type="checkbox"/>	helping people to celebrate all that's good in creation and human life
<input type="checkbox"/>	sharing the Gospel with people who are not Christians
<input type="checkbox"/>	experiencing the power of the Spirit in worship, signs or spiritual gifts
<input type="checkbox"/>	seeking God and deepening our experience of prayer together
<input type="checkbox"/>	giving practical help or support to those in need in our community/wider world
<input type="checkbox"/>	growing closer together in our shared life as a fellowship
<input type="checkbox"/>	helping each other live more like Christ in our thought, speech and action

## PART five – about me

This information will not be used to identify you, either by us or by your own church.

### 5.1 What is the name of the church you attend?

*If you attend more than one church, put the one you're most closely affiliated to.*

### 5.2 What day/time service do you usually attend?

### 5.3 Approximately, how far do you live from your church?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Under 1 mile
<input type="checkbox"/>	1-2 miles
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-5 miles
<input type="checkbox"/>	Over 5 miles

### 5.4 How long have you attended the church you currently go to?

### 5.5 How long would you say you have been a Christian?

### 5.6 If you have a formal position or authority within the church, what is it?



**5.7 What age group are you?**

Tick	
	Up to 11
	11-16
	17-20
	21-30
	31-40
	41-50
	51-60
	61-70
	71-80
	81+
	Prefer not to say

**5.8 Are you:**

Tick	
	Female
	Male
	Prefer not to say

**5.9 How would you describe your ethnic origin?**

	Black African
	Black Caribbean
	Mixed heritage
	White UK
	White Irish

	White Other
	South Asian
	East Asian
	Other: _____
	Prefer not to say

**5.10 Do you have:**

	a degree (from a university, polytechnic or equivalent)
	a formal theological qualification, either from a theological college or University

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. The time and care you have taken over this survey will help both your own church, and the wider church. We hope you found the questions stimulating.

Alongside this survey, we'd like to speak in more depth to people about their journey of faith. This will be an informal conversation with the project researcher, lasting up to an hour.

We are looking for a wide range of ages, backgrounds and faith journeys.

If you would be willing to be interviewed about this subject, as part of the research, please write your contact details here, or contact us as shown on the back cover.



This survey is part of our research into things that help and hinder Christians' journeys of faith. Our report will be freely available in Spring 2016.

**To find out more, please:**

- Visit [www.watchingtheflocks.wordpress.com](http://www.watchingtheflocks.wordpress.com)

**or contact:**

- Simon Foster / Ian Jones, St Peter's Saltley Trust, 3 Nursery Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B15 3JX

0121 427 6800

07432 133 381

[simon@saltleytrust.org.uk](mailto:simon@saltleytrust.org.uk)

