

What Helps Disciples Grow?

These tables are aggregated from 1191 responses from people who completed the questionnaire with reasonable thoroughness. 134 questionnaires had been discounted for incompleteness.

Results are presented in the order in which the questions arise in the questionnaire.

Young adults are those who indicated that they are between 21 and 50 years old.

Mature adults are those who indicated that they are between 51 and 70 years old. Older adults are those who indicated that they are over 70 years old.

1.1 I think that...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
God calls everyone to a particular place, role or task	81	84	81	73
God's call is largely the same for everyone	25	26	23	30

1.2 I believe that...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
I have a particular calling	63	69	64	50
I don't know what my calling is	59	32	27	29
I am resisting or ignoring my calling	3	7	5	6
I am more or less on the journey God wants me to be on	33	54	59	61

2.1 Looking back at my life, I would say...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
During my life, I've seen obvious periods of growth	80	98	92	92
There have been periods of life when I have not grown in faith	91	87	84	80
at some times I have been stuck spiritually	83	89	83	74
at times I have turned away from my faith	53	46	39	29
I have grown in faith through times of loss, difficulty or trial	61	86	80	72
new experiences in my life led to times of growth in my faith	70	86	83	76
it has been hard to keep my faith, when circumstances changed	55	38	37	35

2.2 My Christian Journey has been hampered by...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
The commitments of daily life	59	65	59	53
The beliefs and attitudes of people close to me	47	39	34	26
Having no-one to share my journey with	23	34	20	18
Lack of opportunity to learn or grow	25	28	17	14
My own bad habits and laziness	80	79	75	69
Fear of making a greater commitment	38	38	49	46
Fear that Christianity is not true or makes no sense	42	20	14	13
Understanding my faith differently from those around me	38	33	31	26
The quality of my church worship/community	20	28	20	18
The words of the creed or other articles of faith	16	9	12	12
Something else: specify	8	12	11	7

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

	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
Attending church/worship regularly	95	91	94	96
Listening to sermons	80	91	89	86
Music in church worship	81	89	86	86
Liturgy in church worship	42	58	63	68
Participating in Communion/Eucharist/mass/ Lord's supper	61	76	85	91
Another aspect of worship (specify)	16	25	27	17
A familiar pattern of worship	52	53	61	80
Seasons and shape of the year	55	55	65	75
Being part of a small group/bible study group/similar	77	70	70	60
Being part of my church's social life/fellowship	78	78	83	84
Taking part in my church's outreach	41	53	47	42
A Christian course offered by a local church	25	51	53	45
Leading others (in worship, Sunday schools, small group, prayer etc.)	47	65	55	40
other practical service to my church (specify)	5	31	38	37
praying by myself	80	92	83	88
reading/studying the bible by myself	70	75	76	66
a Spiritual director, mentor, soul friend or prayer guide	52	68	55	43
listening to Christian music on tape, cd, video, radio, TV, internet etc.	63	66	58	58
Listening to Christian teaching, discussion or talks on tape, cd, video, radio, TV, internet etc.	39	52	51	53
Reading Christian/spiritual/theological books	50	75	68	57
Going on retreat	45	48	38	28
Taking part in on-line discussion or conversations	25	18	10	11
Christian conferences, festivals, events or pilgrimages	77	72	60	56
Taking part in social justice/campaigning activity beyond my church	36	37	31	22
Taking part in practical Christian service or mission project not connected with my church	38	41	40	35
Christian education provided by a college, university or denomination	31	34	30	33
My closest friendships or relationships	73	88	84	83
A particular person e.g. missionary, teacher	41	57	59	54

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

	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
Experiencing different churches/Christian spiritualities	45	65	60	54
Trying to put my faith into practice in daily life	78	87	90	86
Conversations with people whose faiths/beliefs are different from mine	67	70	64	59
Hobbies, leisure or cultural activities not connected with church	45	58	53	56
A direct call or experience I believe was from God	47	63	56	48
Other (specify)	8	5	6	3

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

	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
my current growth as a Christian is independent of the church I attend	41	37	37	39

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

	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
the responsibility of the church I attend	47	41	37	30
my own responsibility	89	97	95	94

3.1 The church I attend is good at helping people to...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
pray deeply in a range of different ways	66	58	63	67
understand how to see the world and our times as God see them	81	83	78	74
worship in mind, body and spirit	69	76	76	83
explore and understand the bible	91	79	82	80
put faith into practice in daily life	81	86	86	89
nurture and care for each other in the church community	86	88	91	95
speak about faith or personal journeys	84	71	68	58

3.2 I feel I am good at...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
praying deeply in a range of different ways	20	36	38	38
understanding how to see the world and our time as God sees them	52	54	50	46
worshipping in mind Body and spirit	48	57	54	55
exploring and understand the bible	36	50	55	50
putting faith into practice in daily life	63	64	70	72
nurturing and caring for others in the church community	72	69	70	76
speaking about my faith or personal journey	34	57	45	41

4.1 I feel most alive as a Christian when I ...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
show someone God's love in a practical way	23	36	46	40
gain new understanding of the Bible and its teaching	23	15	13	13
sense God at work in the world beyond my church	25	28	24	17
experience the power of the Holy Spirit moving within me	33	20	19	16
feel God helping me to become more Christ like in my thoughts, words and actions	17	24	24	23
feel close to God in prayer, meditation or silence	23	26	25	32
experience God through those around me, in fellowship, conversation or activity	39	35	33	45

4.2 I felt a church community I have belonged to was most 'alive' when we were...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
helping people celebrate all that is good in creation and human life	23	21	26	33
sharing the Gospel with people who are not Christians	22	15	17	11
experiencing the power of the Spirit in worship, signs or Spiritual gifts	30	23	21	15
seeking God and deepening our experience of prayer together	20	16	20	17
giving practical help or support to those in need in our community/wider world	28	47	49	54
growing closer together in our shared life as a fellowship	34	29	29	36
helping each other live more like Christ in our thought speech and action	22	30	28	21

* For questions 4.1 and 4.2, respondents were asked to select two out of seven responses that they felt most applied to them. Responses selecting up to three preferences were retained. Where respondents selected more than three preferences, their response to the question was discounted.

5.3 Approximately how far do you live from your church?	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
under 1 mile	56	39	43	44
1-2 miles	30	34	29	35
2-5 miles	11	15	21	15
Over 5 miles	3	11	7	6

5.4 How long have you attended the church you currently go to?	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
less than 1 year	5	9	3	1
1-5 years	13	30	14	8
6-9 years	12	16	11	7
10-19 years	33	23	21	16
20-29 years	1	14	21	18
30-39 years	0	4	16	18
40-49 years	0	1	7	17
50-59 years	0	0	3	8
60 years or more	0	0	2	5
No answer	0	2	2	1

5.5 How long would you say you have been a Christian?	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
less than 1 year	2	1	0	0.3
1-5 years	2	4	1	0.3
6-9 years	13	5	1	2
10-19 years	30	21	3	2
20-29 years	48	22	7	2
30-39 years	0	26	15	2
40-49 years	0	16	19	3
50-59 years	0	0	29	5
60 years or more	0	0	22	9
No answer	4	4	3	75
Unsure	1	1	1	2

5.6 If you have a formal position or authority within the church, what is it?	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
None or not applicable				
No Answer				
Written response given (e.g. vicar, elder, children's work, choir, steward)	14	33	42	36

* Question 5.6 was an open text questions. We accepted every written response, other than 'none', 'n/a', etc, as a sign that the individual felt they took some formal responsibility or commitment within their church.

5.7 Are you?	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
Male	45	40	36	40
Female	55	59	62	56
Prefer not to say	0	0	0	0
No answer	0	1	1	4

5.9 How would you describe your ethnic origin?	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
Black African	11	4	1	0
Black Caribbean	3	4	2	2
Mixed Heritage	8	2	0	0
White UK	64	76	86	93
White Irish	0	1	2	1
White Other	2	6	2	1
South Asian	2	1	1	0
East Asian	5	2	2	0
Other	5	3	1	0

5.10 Do you have...	Under 21 agree%	Young adult agree %	Mature adult agree %	Older adult agree %
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A degree	} but not	9	63	45	34
A Theological Qualification	} both	0	3	3	2
Both a degree and a theological qualification		0	12	7	4
Neither		91	22	44	60
