

Church Culture Assessment

This assessment is designed to help your church evaluate how well it is living by these God-given principles of church growth. Like DNA in our bodies, these principles make us who we are and create a church culture that honors God. We achieve Christ's mission of reaching others by living out the elements of the church's DNA.

The purpose of this self-assessment is to get an honest picture of where we need to grow collectively to become the type of God-honoring culture we want to be. Since our growth as a church is the result of our personal growth in Christ, it is essential to score each statement as true to yourself as possible. The spirit behind this assessment should not lead you to feel self-pride or self-pity at individual results. Rather, the anonymous results help shape periods of intentional focus as a church body as we move towards God's vision for us.

My Church's Vision and Mission: (Do you know your church's mission and vision? Write out your church's vision and mission as you understand them):

What four words would you use to describe your church currently?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

What four words would you like to have describe your church?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Instructions: Rate yourself for each question as follows: 1 – Never; 2 – Sometimes; 3 – Usually; 4 – Always

1. REFLECT - We Build on Our Heritage

We have a rich spiritual heritage of God’s leading as Seventh-day Adventists. The call of Abraham, the exodus from Egypt, the apostolic church after Pentecost, and the Advent movement—all teach important lessons for our personal and church growth.

*“Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:20).*

Am I consistently learning from our Biblical history so I can apply the lessons it teaches?

___ **Research:** I am regularly studying the Biblical story of God’s people to learn its lessons.

___ **Learn:** I choose to learn from Seventh-day Adventist historical materials.

___ **Read:** I appreciate and read from the Spirit of Prophecy frequently.

___ **Apply:** I prayerfully seek to apply the lessons I am learning to my life and church work.

___ **Discuss:** I talk about our spiritual heritage with others.

REFLECT Total: _____

2. EMPOWER - We Equip Disciple Makers

Each of us is called to make disciples of Jesus Christ in everyday life. This can feel daunting. Yet we may gain confidence to mentor others in biblical truth through God’s gifting as we deliberately seek out equipping.

*“Then the Word of God spread, and the number of the
disciples multiplied greatly...” (Acts 6:7)*

Am I serving my church family by becoming a disciple maker?

___ **Empowerment:** I pray daily for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit so that I can be an effective worker for Christ.

___ **Confidence:** I seek to improve my skills and abilities so that I am better equipped to serve my church family with my particular talents and help others grow in their abilities.

___ **Guidance:** I have a mentor(s) who supports me in my journey of making passionate Christ followers.

___ **Leadership:** I am currently mentoring at least one individual to follow Jesus and use their talents to work in God’s service.

___ **Teaching:** I am training other church members to be able to replace me in my current duties.

EMPOWER Total: _____

3. NURTURE - We Follow Christ Passionately

Nothing is more important than our journey with Christ. Like any significant relationship, we are strengthened and refreshed through quality time and communication. Our personal journey with Christ, and engaging in ministry fully, are interconnected and essential for the growth we crave.

“And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent” (John 17:3).

Am I committing time to build an intimate relationship with Christ?

___ **Pray:** I spend time with God in prayer every day and regularly intercede for others.

___ **Study:** I invest quality time with God in systematic Bible study every day.

___ **Submission:** I am surrendering specific habits in my life to God even when it's challenging for me.

___ **Depth:** I often seek out someone to have a deep spiritual conversation with concerning God's work in my life and theirs.

___ **Fellowship:** I engage in Bible study and prayer in a small group on a weekly basis.

NURTURE Total: _____

4. EVANGELIZE - We Engage Wholeheartedly

Ministry is the call of all, not the occupation of a few. As Christ draws us to Himself, we are radically changed from self-focused consumers to selfless contributors. Together as the body of Christ, we steward the time and resources entrusted to us for the expansion of His work. Our highest goal is to help others come to know Jesus as their personal Savior.

“I proclaimed [the Gospel] to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house” (Acts 20:20).

Am I engaging in evangelistic ministry with my time and resources?

___ **Initiate:** I offer my help and time for any public evangelism efforts in my church.

___ **Commit:** I consistently look for opportunities to help my church develop its public witness.

___ **Recruit:** I encourage those who are not currently engaged to begin participating in public ministry.

___ **Provide:** I financially support the public mission of my church through faithful giving.

___ **Impact:** I participate enthusiastically with large outreach events through this church.

EVANGELIZE Total: _____

5. WITNESS - We Connect Intentionally

Since God Himself is relational (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), the quality of our relationships matter. We purposely build authentic connections with those in our sphere of influence so that we can share Christ with them. We actively seek to be a channel of redemption and blessing to a broken world by meeting the needs of people around us.

*“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;
and you shall be witnesses for me...” (Acts 1:8)*

Am I intentionally building meaningful relationships outside the church?

___ **Awareness:** I am aware of an individual or a group of people in my community with significant needs not currently being met.

___ **Minister:** I take initiative to personally meet the needs of someone outside my church family at least once a week.

___ **Witness:** I prayerfully and actively look for ways to share the gospel with family and friends who don't know Jesus.

___ **Friendliness:** I initiate quality time with people outside of church membership at least once a month.

___ **Serve:** I meet needs in my community through a small group, either inside or outside the church, formal or informal.

WITNESS Total: _____

RENEW Totals:

Reflect: _____ Empower: _____ Nurture: _____ Evangelize: _____ Witness: _____

Developed by:

Marshall McKenzie, Church Growth Director, Kentucky Tennessee Conference in conjunction with North American Division Evangelism Institute

