

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the “Spiritual Life Survey”?

A: The Spiritual Life Survey is the name for a research tool created in 2004 by Willow Creek Community Church and the ORIGINATE research firm. This survey was designed to assess the spiritual growth of a church’s congregation in order to determine if spiritual needs are being met. Since 2004, the Spiritual Life Survey has been used in over 500 churches and taken by more than 157,000 church goers. Learn more at revealnow.com

Q: What is “Reveal”?

A: REVEAL is the name of the study that compiles the data generated by all Spiritual Life Surveys. REVEAL provides an accurate analysis of the data so that church leadership can make informed decisions. Learn more at revealnow.com

Q: Are taking things like surveys considered *biblical*?

A: While computer-aided surveys and analysis weren’t around 2,000 years ago, the Bible is clear about our responsibilities as church leaders ...

- To use all means (1 Corinthians 9:22-23)
- To know the condition of the flock (Acts 20:28-31 and 1 Peter 5:2)
- To present everyone mature in Christ (Colossians 1:28)

Q: Couldn’t we just do our own survey?

A: We could, but it wouldn’t be a good idea for several reasons:

- An independent research resource ensures that study is completely impartial, confidential and professionally administered.
- We would not have the benefit of over six years of experience and data collection and analysis from churches across the country.

Q: Why are we doing a survey?

A: For a church body the size of Fellowship Bible Church, this survey is the best and most accurate means we know of to determine our overall spiritual health. What we will learn from this will help us direct where and how our resources should be used to have the most impact for His kingdom.

Q: Who is responsible for the survey?

A: The Guiding Elders determined this was the best means available to “know the condition of the flock” so as to help “present everyone mature in Christ” at Fellowship Bible Church.

Q: What kinds of things will we learn from taking the survey?

A: We will learn where we are as a church regarding our spiritual maturity, what may be stalling spiritual growth for some, what may be causing dissatisfaction for others, where there are opportunities for growth, etc.

Q: How long before the results come back from the survey?

A: It will take about 30 days to receive a report of the survey findings and analysis.

Q: Who gets the results from the survey?

A: The report goes to the Senior Pastor and Guiding Elders. They will brief the staff and congregation on its key findings as appropriate.

Q: What are the requirements for taking the survey?

A: We ask that anyone taking the Spiritual Life Survey consider Fellowship Bible Church his/her "church home". We realize that means different things to different people. Customarily, that usually means regular attendance for about three months. We also ask people taking the survey be at least 18 years old. You need not be an official member of Fellowship Bible Church to take the survey.

Q: How long does it take? What is it like?

A: It takes about 30 to 35 minutes to complete and is multiple-choice.

Q: When can I take the survey?

A: You can take the survey anytime, day or night, between February 7 and 20, 2010.

Q: Is there a printed copy of the survey that I can take?

A: Unfortunately no. It is only available to take on a computer that is online.

Q: I'm not very good at computers. Is this a problem?

A: Access to the survey is a simple link, so it's very easy.

Q: I don't have a computer or access to the Internet. What do I do?

A: We will have a computer-lab open and available to you with assistance at Fellowship on Sunday, February 14. Ask for details.

Q: We did a survey a few years ago. Is it like that?

A: No. There were some complaints about a survey conducted a few years regarding inability to access it easily online. This is a different survey resource that is much easier to use.

Q: Will this survey give me my own personal spiritual assessment?

A: No. The Spiritual Life Survey was created for the church body. You will not receive a report about yourself.

Q: Will anyone at church see my survey or know that I've taken it or not taken it?

A: No. The Spiritual Life Survey is completely confidential and anonymous.

Q: Can I take this survey with my spouse?

A: Sorry, no. This is an individual survey, not a family survey. For the results to be accurate, everyone must take the Spiritual Life Survey by themselves.

Q: Where can I get the web link to the Spiritual Life Survey?

A: The web link will be on our web page regarding the Spiritual Life Survey at fbconline.org and will be active starting February 7. We will also publish it in various handouts and correspondence.

Q: Since the web link to the survey can be accessed by anyone, isn't there a concern that the survey results could be swayed or inaccurate?

A: No. The accuracy of the Spiritual Life Survey results are not affected by this ease of access.

Q: How many of us need to take the survey for the results to be valid?

A: The more of us who take the Spiritual Life Survey, the better. For a church our size, REVEAL recommends a minimum of 250 completed surveys to give any kind of valid results. Obviously, we prefer more than that. Don't depend on someone else to take the survey and not you – it's all our responsibility.

Q: Where can I find more information on the Spiritual Life Survey?

A: There is a wealth of information at revealnow.com. Also, we will have information desks set up at church on February 7 and 14.

Q: I know restaurants and stores provide prize incentives or cash rewards to take surveys. Is there any incentive for us to take this survey?

A: Yes. Equipping your church home with the means to better help you and all the members of the Fellowship family in their journey toward maturity in Christ ... that's the best incentive we can think of. Help us help you!