

Discipleship Essentials Assessment Next Steps

Remember, each essential had a maximum score of 45 on the assessment. As you read through these suggested next steps, explore the [Discipleship Journey Map tool](#) to learn more about how to take steps at New City.

Belonging is:

Believing that you are loved, chosen, and invited into relationship with God and his people

When mature in Belonging, I feel loved and accepted by God and several other believers. I regularly live in God's loving presence and know that I don't have to perform to earn his love. I know how to live relationally with him; there are people in my life who really know me and my heart, and they stick with me through life's ups and downs.

If you do not feel the tangible love of God and other believers, then this is a place of growth for you.

If you scored lower in **Belonging**, here are some possible next steps to help you grow in Belonging:

- Join a Community Group
- Attend a Connect Event and be intentional about making new friends
- Seek out a new friend in the Sunday morning environment, invite them to lunch, and pursue friendship with them.
- Deepen a current relationship that you are in by sharing more of your life and continuing to support, care, and show curiosity for their lives.
- Invest deeply, intentionally, and authentically in 1-2 people who you are willing to be yourself with and make time for.
- Go through the membership class
- Invite a staff member out for coffee to allow them to get to know you and see how you might get more connected
- Read *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane Ortlund or *Surrendered to Love* by David Banner

Identity is:

Understanding the intersection of your story and God's story

When mature in Identity, I live from a place of worth because my life is now connected to the life of Jesus. I live in union with him, and the work he did through his life, death, and resurrection is credited to me. That means I am redeemed, forgiven, and free from the power of sin. I am settled in who I am because I live from a place of unconditional love and acceptance from God. I

don't need to prove and strive for my identity, because I am secure in my identity as God's cherished child.

If you scored lower in **Identity**, here are some possible next steps to help you grow in living from your identity in Christ:

- Join a Story Group for Women or Iron Collective for Men
- Read the book, *Living Fearless* by Jamie Winship or *Abba's Child* by Brennan Manning
- Take the Practicing the Way Academy Course
- Talk to a Christian counselor with Church x City

Truth is:

Learning and being transformed by the good news of Jesus

When I am mature in Truth, I understand what the Bible teaches about God's redemptive plan and how the Old and New Testaments tell one big story about Jesus. This knowledge transforms my life and helps me to understand how I fit into this story. I can also guide others to understanding the truth of the gospel and how it transforms their life.

If you scored lower in **Truth**, here are some possible next steps to help you grow in your understanding of the truth of God's Word:

- Take the Academy Classes: Discovering Jesus, Discovering the Gospel, or OT and NT Redemptive History
- Be faithful to study the sermon series and use the sermon discussion guide
- Join a Flourish Bible Study
- Read the Scripture using a Bible Reading Plan
- Engage in the content and courses found at bibleproject.com
- Do an online Bible study or course from biblicaltraining.org
- Listen to these teachings on the [EFCA Statement of Faith](http://www.efca.org/faith)
- Read the book, *Evangelical Convictions*, with a group

Purpose is:

Living out your unique contribution to God's Kingdom and guiding others to do the same

When I am mature in my understanding of my purpose, I am flourishing in using my gifts in the local church, in my city, and in the world (Hear, Near, and Far). In relationships, I am able to discern where a person is spiritually and help guide them, in partnership with the Holy Spirit, to take a step closer to finding and following Jesus.

If you scored lower in **Purpose**, here are some possible next steps to help you identify and understand your purpose:

- Take the Academy courses, Design: Living God's Design or Engage: Helping People Find Jesus
- Read *The Call* by Os Guinness
- Read the book *SHAPE* by Erik Rees
- Be intentional about trying new ways of using your gifts and talents and evaluate your effectiveness and enjoyment
- Take a [spiritual gift assessment](#)
- Volunteer – join a New City Volunteer Team (Hospitality Team, NextGen Team, Production Team, Worship Team, Serve Team, Academy Team, Community Groups Team)
- Serve with [New City partners](#) in the Charlotte area.