

## LIVING OUT KINGDOM VALUES

How does my lifestyle compare to Jesus's?

What am I doing to build faith in a God for whom nothing is impossible?

How often do I share my faith? Do I find this hard or easy? How could I get better?

Do I have a heart for the lost? Am I proud of the gospel or ashamed?

Am I obedient to God's prompting?

Do I pray for the sick? Am I seeing people healed when I pray?

How am I making time for and making use of the gifts of the Spirit? Do I use them fully in the life of the church and beyond?

How am I increasing in awareness of social justice and developing a love for the poor?

How do I encounter the presence of God in worship?

In what ways am I helping my church be good news to our community?

What situations and which people am I praying for at the moment?

Am I a servant? How do I serve in the church community?

How am I actively encouraging others to grow in their faith?

Am I running the race with perseverance?

## GROWING IN RESPONSIBILITY

Am I aware of my strengths and weaknesses?

Is the way I spend all of my time balanced and sustainable? How would I know this?

To what extent do people feel I am listening to them?

How well am I using my time and gifts to fulfil the current priorities God has given me?

Am I a person who commits to tasks/promises and is known for seeing them through?

To what extent do I understand and pursue the church's vision?

What am I doing to train and develop in my role as part of the church?

How am I loving and encouraging the people I work with?

Would others say I am using people or the church for my purposes or serving them and the church for God's purposes?

What am I avoiding or procrastinating over?

Are those to whom I am accountable challenging me sufficiently? Am I honest with them?

How seriously do I take my responsibilities ...within the church? ...within the community?

How am I developing my understanding of God's call on my life?

*Extras for leaders:*

*Am I building a team to complement me?*

*What am I doing to identify and develop other leaders?*

# Growing Stronger

Following Jesus more closely

Searching questions  
to help us  
grow together



Christ Church Alsager

Note: This guide has been developed for our context from a similar leaflet published by New Wine

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## How to use Growing Stronger

The questions in this leaflet address four areas. These are fundamental for healthy living and fruitful lives as Christian disciples. In each, we are called to be open to continual transformation and growth.

Growing Stronger is designed to be used by groups of 2-4 people of the same gender. Agree how often and for how long you will meet (monthly for 1-1½ hours works well). What you share should be kept confidential and non-judgemental. Honesty, positive encouragement and loving challenge are all important.

To get started:

- **Discuss** any outcomes from the last time you met.
- **Choose** one of the sections to use as a basis for each session (you can do them in rotation)
- **Read** the questions. Each individually ask God to show you two questions for discussion. One you feel is a personal strength and the other where you need to develop.
- **In turn, share** which questions you've picked and your answers to them, whilst the others listen. Try to identify problem areas and underlying issues.
- **Together, share** thoughts, common experience, biblical understanding and the Holy Spirit's prompting.
- **Identify** practical steps to address areas that require a change of heart, attitude or behaviour.
- **Pray** for one another for the things discussed and other things shared.
- **Agree** how to be accountable to each other for areas that require change. Be willing to start by talking about this next time.

## WALKING WITH GOD

How much space and time am I giving myself for daily prayer?

When did I last spend a significant time alone with God?

When and how has God spoken to me recently?

Am I feeling close to or distant from Jesus?

When did I last read and study the Bible for personal use and what did God reveal?

How am I engaging in the worship life of my church?

How am I contributing to the life of my growth group?

What measures could I take to allow myself to receive more fully from God?

What negative factors and feelings are affecting my faith in God?

Am I carrying unresolved guilt or shame?

Am I focussing on expressing thanks for the things that I have recently seen God doing?

What have I enjoyed reading recently?

How am I developing my understanding of God's call on my life?

Is there an area of my life for which I am trusting God to act in a supernatural way?

## DEVELOPING CHARACTER

Is God the first priority in every part of my life?

What evidence is there of love, joy and peace of Christ in my life?

How am I demonstrating respect and honour for others?

Am I mindful of what God thinks of me, or controlled by the fear of what others are thinking of me?

How am I making my critical friendships, family/spouse a priority, and would they agree that my life demonstrates this?

Am I facing necessary confrontations with grace, courage and truth or avoiding them altogether?

To whom or what do I turn for comfort, and what am I doing to relax?

How am I still experiencing pleasure and fun?

Am I taking myself too seriously or am I still able to laugh at myself?

Am I aware of areas of weakness and alert to temptation?

Am I aware of the changes I need to make to grow?

Is my life characterised by generosity of time, spirit and money?