

#4

BELONGING TO CHURCH

A mature Christian is a dedicated church member. They sense the preciousness of the body of Christ and the importance of the local church to God. They learn to love the church family they have been given. They commit to building up the church and its ministries through faithful fellowship and dedicated service.



CHARACTER TO CULTIVATE

AFFECTIONS



Q2 *In what ways are you experiencing...*

LOVE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE, with real affection and concern.

DELIGHT IN SERVING, finding joy in seeing others benefit.

Q3 *What false idols might be getting in the way?*

THOUGHTS



Q3 *How is God helping you to develop...*

VALUING CHURCH, not treating church family as "them"

PUTTING SELF LAST, preferring to meet the needs of others.

Q5 *What unhelpful thinking is tripping you up?*

PRAYERS



Q6 *Do you experience...*

INTERCESSION, faithfully upholding others in prayer.

MINISTRY PRAYER, bringing to God the needs of ministries.

Q7 *What makes it hard for you to pray this way?*

BEHAVIOURS



Q7 *Are you seeing growth in these marks of godliness...*

FAITHFUL AT CHURCH, can be relied on as committed.

HOSPITALITY, inviting church family home, sharing real life.

Q9 *In what contexts is this hardest for you?*

TRAINING EXPERIENCES

4.1

READ & DISCUSS

Work through a recommended Bible study or book, planning accountability & action steps.

4.2

MINISTRY OF THE PEW

Follow [MTS Exercise 4.01, "Ministry of the Pew"](#)

4.3

INTERCESSION

Follow [MTS Exercise 3.03, "Pray with Others"](#)

4.4

REFLECTION ON BELONGING TO CHURCH

Listen to messages on [Belonging to Church](#) and reflect on the nature of your involvement with Church.



And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.


HEBREWS 10:24-25


CONVICTIONS TO DEVELOP


1. GOD	Trinity & Person of God	Divine Attributes	Evidence for God	Answering the Problem of Evil		
2. CREATION	Created Order & Goodness	Providence & Common Grace	Christianity & Science	Christianity & Conservation	Christianity & the Arts	Christianity & Industry
3. HUMANITY	Image of God	Gender and Sexuality	Work & Worship	Sin, Curse & Depravity	Christianity & Psychology	Christianity & Technology
4. JUDGMENT	Holiness & Divine Wrath	Satan & Demonic Power	Hell & Eternal Judgment	The Fate of the Lost	Powerlessness of Religion	
5. SCRIPTURE	Necessity of Revelation	Bible as God's Word	Interpretation via Gospel	OT Fulfillment in Christ	Bible Reliability	Power of the Gospel
6. CHRIST	Eternal Sonship	Full Humanity & Full Divinity	Perfect Obedience	Substitutionary Atonement	Implications of Resurrection	Historicity of Jesus
7. NEW CREATION	Reign & 2nd Coming	Heaven & Restoration	Kingdom of God	Tension of Now-Not-Yet	Ethics & Decision-making	
8. HOLY SPIRIT	Spirit of the Son	Indwelling of Believers	Gifting for Ministry	Error of Experientialism		
9. SALVATION	Knowing the Gospel	Predestination & New Birth	Repentance & Faith	Justification & Assurance	Sanctification & Ongoing Sin	Trials & Perseverance
10. CHURCH	Body of Christ & Household	Baptism & Membership	Communion & Unity	Ministry & Service	Local & Global Mission	


RESOURCES FOR DISCIPLESHIP


BIBLE STUDIES

 **Bible Books to Read and Carefully Meditate on**
ACTS, EPHESIANS, 1 PETER, 1 THESSALONIANS, GALATIANS


 **Built Upon the Rock** (Church, IX Marks)
Foundational studies that will cultivate appreciation for the preciousness of church.

 **Committing to One Another** (Membership, IX Marks)
Explores the "one anothers" of the New Testament, portraying a rich picture of church relationships.

 **Guarding One Another** (Accountability, IX Marks)
About the importance of Christian accountability and the role we play in shepherding each other's faith.

 **Sing for Joy** (On Christian Singing, Matthias Media)
Looking at the Bible on why we sing in Church and how this is done in a way that glorifies God.

BOOKS & ARTICLES

 **The Compelling Community** (Dunlop & Dever)
Shows the way the gospel creates church community that is uniquely diverse and genuinely deep.