

# Local Church Self-Assessment for Bible Engagement



## Bible Engagement Assessment Tool

### Bible Engagement Assessment Tool for Congregations

You can use this quick 10-question survey to assess your congregation's Bible engagement. The questions are drawn from some of the most significant Bible engagement questions from the Canadian Bible Engagement Study (CBES).

This is a benchmarking tool that works best when it is completed anonymously. Administer it in one of two ways:

1. Photocopy and distribute the survey on page 2 and score it using the scoring key on page 3.
2. Use an online survey platform such as SurveyMonkey.com with the questions on page 2 and score results using the scoring key on page 3.

Average scores for Canadians and various Christian traditions appear on page 4.

## Bible Engagement Survey

Here are 10 quick questions about Bible engagement and we'd like to get your views. There are no right or wrong answers. This is about what you think and what you do.

Please select one response for each item	Strongly agree	Moderately agree	Moderately disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / Refused
1. The scriptures of all major world religions teach essentially the same things.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. I feel the Bible is relevant to modern life.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. I feel the Bible has contradictions that cannot be reconciled.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. I believe the Bible to be the Word of God.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I feel the Bible is reliable and trustworthy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

  

Please select one response for each item	Daily or a few times a week	Once a week, or once or twice a month	A few times a year or seldom	Never	Don't know / Refused
6. How often do you read the Bible other than at religious services?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. I reflect on the meaning of the Bible in my life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. I reflect on the meaning of the Bible for Canadian society in general	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Outside of religious services, I talk with others about the Bible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

  

Please select one response	At least weekly	Once or a few times a month	At least once a year but less than monthly	Never	Don't know / Refused
10. Other than on special occasions, such as weddings, funerals or baptisms, how often did you attend religious services or meetings in the past 12 months?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Bible Engagement Survey Scoring Key

Score the Bible Engagement surveys using the values on the table below. Add up the scores for each question for the respondent's total score. There are 30 total possible points. Calculate your congregation's score by adding up all the respondents' scores and dividing them by the number of respondents.

<b>Please select one response for each item</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Moderately agree</b>	<b>Moderately disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don't know / Refused</b>
1. The scriptures of all major world religions teach essentially the same things.	0	1	2	3	0
2. I feel the Bible is relevant to modern life.	3	2	1	0	0
3. I feel the Bible has contradictions that cannot be reconciled.	0	1	2	3	0
4. I believe the Bible to be the Word of God.	3	2	1	0	0
5. I feel the Bible is reliable and trustworthy.	3	2	1	0	0

  

<b>Please select one response for each item</b>	<b>Daily or a few times a week</b>	<b>Once a week, or once or twice a month</b>	<b>A few times a year or seldom</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Don't know / Refused</b>
6. How often do you read the Bible other than at religious services?	3	2	1	0	0
7. I reflect on the meaning of the Bible in my life	3	2	1	0	0
8. I reflect on the meaning of the Bible for Canadian society in general	3	2	1	0	0
9. Outside of religious services, I talk with others about the Bible	3	2	1	0	0

  

<b>Please select one response</b>	<b>At least weekly</b>	<b>Once or a few times a month</b>	<b>At least once a year but less than monthly</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Don't know / Refused</b>
10. Other than on special occasions, such as weddings, funerals or baptisms, how often did you attend religious services or meetings in the past 12 months?	3	2	1	0	0

## How Does Our Congregation Compare to Other Canadians?

### Average Scores for Canadian Bible Engagement Study Respondents, 2013

Questions	Tradition					
	French Catholic	English Catholic	Mainline	Evangelical	Christian	Canada
1. The scriptures of all major world religions teach essentially the same things.	1.3	1.3	1.4	2.0	1.4	1.3
2. I feel the Bible is relevant to modern life.	1.2	1.7	1.8	2.4	1.8	1.2
3. I feel the Bible has contradictions that cannot be reconciled.	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.1	1.5	1.1
4. I believe the Bible to be the Word of God.	1.6	1.9	1.7	2.6	1.9	1.2
5. I feel the Bible is reliable and trustworthy.	1.6	1.7	1.7	2.5	1.8	1.2
6. How often do you read the Bible other than at religious services?	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.9	0.9	0.6
7. I reflect on the meaning of the Bible in my life (frequency)	0.6	1.1	1.2	2.1	1.2	0.8
8. I reflect on the meaning of the Bible for Canadian society in general (frequency)	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.8	1.0	0.6
9. Outside of religious services, I talk with others about the Bible (frequency)	0.4	0.7	0.7	1.6	0.8	0.6
10. Other than on special occasions, such as weddings, funerals or baptisms, how often did you attend religious services or meetings in the past 12 months?	1.5	1.8	1.7	2.2	1.8	1.7
<b>Total Score out of 30</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>10.3</b>