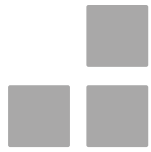


Gospel Partner Assessment

A Tool for Personal Spiritual Formation





Step 1:

Carefully review BGC's Discipleship Map (found on pages 10-11)

The Gospel Partner Assessment compliments the BGC Discipleship Map. The Map is a visual summary of our vision, mission, and values. Brief examples are listed as expressions of living these out in daily life. These are not exhaustive. The Assessment is organized per the three main branches of the map: Reach, Build, and Release.

No matter what stage you're at in your spiritual life, whether a new believer or a seasoned Christian, the Discipleship Map directs us to pathways of growth.

Step 2:

Complete the following self-assessment.

Reach

BGC's mission is to reach people with the gospel, build them up in the gospel, and release them with the gospel. Reaching people with the gospel involves incorporating spiritual conversations about the Bible, talking about Jesus, articulating the gospel, applying truth to your own heart, and sharing what God is doing in and around you in everyday life. Use the questions below to assess where you're at in reaching people with the gospel.

1. Think of the different spheres of your life (family, work, friends, school, neighborhood). On a scale of 1-5, how confident are you that God wants to use you to impact the lives of others right where you are?

1 2 3 4 5
lacking confidence -----> very confident

2. On a scale of 1-5, how likely are you to talk about what Jesus is doing in your life to a friend or family member?

1 2 3 4 5
not likely -----> very likely

3. What helps or hinders you from talking about spiritual topics with others?

4. What is your skill level in discerning your heart's desires and motivations and rightly applying the gospel when you err from God's word?

1 2 3 4 5
novice -----> professional

5. How equipped are you in sharing the gospel and how it applies to the lives of those around you?

1 2 3 4 5
ill-equipped -----> equipped

6. On a scale of 1-5, how likely are you to invite someone to church, Bible study, Missional Community, or to show them hospitality in your home?

1 2 3 4 5
not likely -----> very likely

Build

Building people up in the gospel means helping one another mature as believers in Christ. At BGC, we intentionally do this by pursuing seven core values. Consider the questions below to assess personal growth and ways of building others up in their faith.

1. Which of BGC's seven core values (Christ-Centered, Spirit-Filled, etc. See definitions on page 21.) is most evident in your life? Jot down an example or two of how this value was recently demonstrated.

2. Which value is least evident in your life? What do you find most challenging about practicing this value? Does anything about it seem confusing or unclear to you?

3. I read the Bible and spend time with God in prayer. (1 = never; 5 = daily)

1 2 3 4 5

4. I pursue sabbath principles of rest and regularly experience inward peace and an unhurried, undistracted mind. (1 = never; 5 = regularly)

1 2 3 4 5

5. I am vulnerable and share deeply with at least one other person about the work God is doing in my life. (1 = never; 5 = regularly)

1 2 3 4 5

6. Reviewing Galatians 5:22, I see the Spirit's fruit in my life in these ways:

7. I would like to grow in the Spirit's fruit of:

8. I am confident of God's love for me in Christ and regularly experience joy in this realization. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

9. I am sensitive to the Holy Spirit's conviction in my life and it's common for me to confess sin, seek forgiveness, and work to restore any relational damage resulting from conflict. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

10. I doubt or question God's love for me. (1 = often; 5 = rarely)

1 2 3 4 5

11. I struggle with condemnation, guilt, and attempts to hide my true thoughts and emotions from others. (1 = often; 5 = rarely)

1 2 3 4 5

12. I respond to confession with grace and mercy and can continue showing and receiving love in relationships with close family membrs and fellow Christians. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

13. I participate in Bible study or discipleship classes. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

14. I attend Missional Community or church-related events that help me build relationships with other believers. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

15. I am comfortable openly expressing disappointment and hurt or lovingly calling for biblical change with my spouse and/or closest relationships. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

16. I tend to minimize, withdraw, explode in anger, or punish others who sin against me by withholding warmth and forgiveness. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

17. I give financially to BGC and seek to meet practical needs that I become aware of. (1 = sporadically; 5 = regularly)

1 2 3 4 5

18. I participate on a BGC ministry team and use my gifts to serve others outside the church. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

19. I know which spiritual gifts I have and how to use them to help others. (1 = uncertain; 5 = certain)

1 2 3 4 5

20. I pray for and take advantage of opportunities to share the gospel with others. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

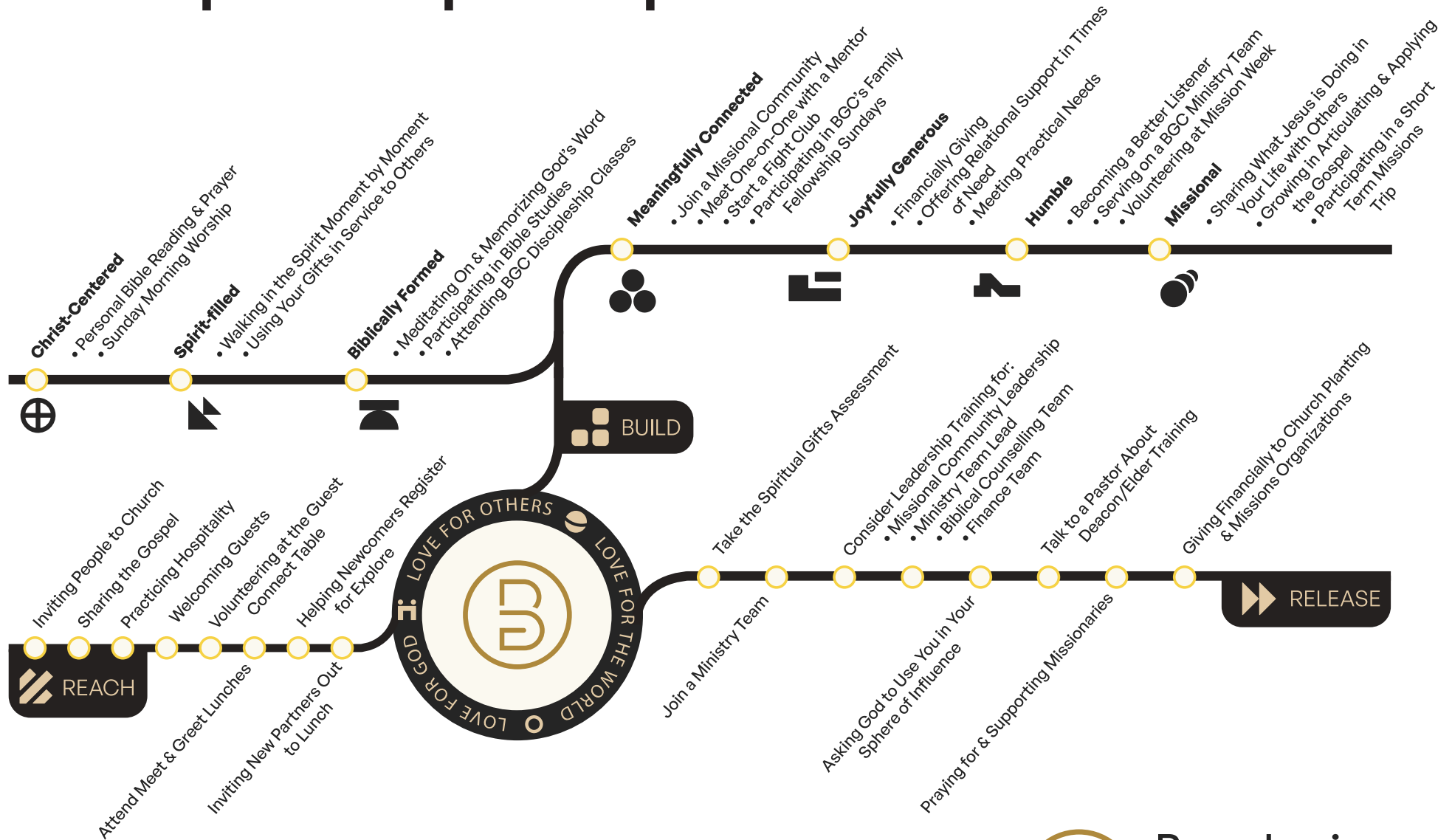
21. I consider myself a global Christian and pray to play my part in God's glory advancing to all people groups of the world. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

22. When it comes to participating in a BGC short-term missions trip I am: (1 = closed to the idea; 5 = willing to participate)

1 2 3 4 5

Discipleship Map



Release

Releasing people with the gospel is about helping one another discern the unique work God calls and energizes us to do. According to our capacities, season of life, and gifting, we encourage each other to serve in strategic ways. Reaching people with the gospel focuses on speaking and showing the gospel to the lost. Releasing people with the gospel focuses on how God uniquely equips each Christian to be as fruitful in life and ministry as possible. It pertains to life inside and outside of the church. It happens locally and globally. Consider the questions below in assessing your involvement in the release component of our mission.

1. Who has God placed in your sphere of influence to reach out to or disciple? (Think: Missional Community or Bible study groups, Men’s or Women’s ministry groups, fellow ministry team members, neighborhood friends, your children, connections through kid’s sports teams or school, friends at the gym or co-workers, etc.)

2. Who in your life needs to:

- Hear the gospel?

- Receive your care, a listening ear, or ongoing friendship?

- Benefit from your knowledge of God and his word?

3. I enjoy and feel energized by serving on a ministry team at BGC or doing hidden acts of service. (1 = rarely; 5 = often)

1 2 3 4 5

4. If you could participate in or lead any ministry at BGC or elsewhere, what would it be?

5. Do you aspire to any of the following leadership positions in the church?

- Elder
- Deacon
- Missional Community Leader
- Ministry Team Leader
- Biblical Counselor
- Other

6. When was the last time you interacted with someone from a different culture? What did you enjoy about the interaction? What did you find intimidating or uncomfortable?

7. What are your unique skills, experiences, or areas of expertise? Is God pinpointing any that you can strategically use to mobilize others in making disciples?

Step 3:

Consider the application ideas below

Giving ourselves specific action items moves us from the theoretical to the practical. Use this section to plan concrete steps of growth.

Reach

Fill in the blanks.

I'd like to invite _____ (name) to church or an upcoming BGC event. I'll ask him or her on _____ (date).

Last week's sermon reminded me of a conversation I had with _____. I'll send them a YouTube link to the service on _____ (date).

I'm grateful for God doing _____ in my life recently. I will pray for an opportunity to share it openly this week.

The simple steps to welcoming newcomers to BGC are:

- Shake it up! Sit somewhere new or linger after church to engage in fellowship at least once each month.
- Smile and introduce yourself to someone new each Sunday.
- Volunteer with the Guest Connections, Parking, or Greeters teams.
- Make room for newcomers. Park off-site, sit in the front rows, and don't leave empty seats in the middle.

One step I'll take this month from the list above is:

If you bring a guest or meet someone new at church, consider the following:

1. Direct guests to the Guest Connect area in the first-floor lobby.
2. Invite guests to the next BGC Meet & Greet luncheon. Help them sign up on Church Center and plan to join them at the luncheon.
3. Encourage those interested in learning more about BGC to attend the Explore class. Find out when the next class is and help them register.

One person I'll help get connected at BGC is:

Find out the names of the newest Partners of BGC. Invite one person or a couple over for lunch or dinner.

I'll make plans to have a meal with:

Build

These are simple suggestions to pursue personal growth. Review the list and take action on one or two ideas that stand out to you.

- Research Bible reading plans or choose a devotional book. Commit to reading the Bible or a devotional daily or several times weekly.
- Memorize Galatians 5:22 and pray for growth in the fruit of the Holy Spirit.
- Register for a Bible study or discipleship class at BGC.
- Join a BGC Missional Community or volunteer on a ministry team.
- Are you experiencing financial stress and feeling unsure about what to do? Consider taking the Financial Peace University class the next time it's offered, or talk to a pastor or trusted friend about your immediate needs and situation.
- Practice regular giving to BGC. Look for opportunities to use your time, money, or skills to meet practical needs.
- If you are experiencing significant relational strife or a personal crisis, talk to a pastor about getting help.

Our missional value includes growth as global Christians. A global Christian is one eager to play his or her part in seeing the gospel advance, especially to the unreached and unengaged places of the world. We're not all called to cross-cultural ministry, but some of us are. Below are ways all of us can be involved in the Great Commission. Circle the ones you feel drawn to. Then, talk to a pastor or fellow BGC partner about the next step you can take in those areas.

Giving: Support missionaries through financial gifts, care packages, or providing for a practical need (e.g. vehicle).

Going: Participate in a BGC's short-term missions trip.

Sending: Help send out missionaries for cross-cultural work and join the care team for one of BGC's sent ones.

Mobilizing: Encourage others to get involved in spreading God's glory and to prioritize helping the unreached.

Praying: Pray for missionaries and for more laborers to be sent out.

Welcoming: Welcome unreached people groups that have located to our area (e.g. neighbors, college students, exchange students).

Catalyzing: Incorporate your work, passions, and gifts to share God's heart for the world.

Raising awareness: Host events to raise awareness about missionaries and their ministries.

Visiting: Visit missionaries in countries where they serve.

Release

Here are several steps or ideas for you as you consider yourself released with the gospel.

Take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment on the Church Center announcements page. Talk to a friend, deacon, or pastor about your results or any questions you have about practicing your gifts.

Fill out the Care Volunteer Survey on the Church Center announcements page. This information helps our Deacons of Community Care in mobilizing the church in caring for one another.

Read the following “one another” commands in Scripture. Thank God for the ways you see these demonstrated in your life and our church. Ask for forgiveness from God and others where the Holy Spirit convicts you.

- *Love one another (John 13:34).*
- *Outdo one another in showing honor (Romans 12:10).*
- *Live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16).*
- *Pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding (Romans 14:19).*
- *Encourage one another and build up one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18; 5:11).*
- *Welcome one another (Romans 15:7).*
- *Teach and admonish one another (Colossians 3:16).*

- *Care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25).*
- *Serve one another (Galatians 5:13).*
- *Bear one another’s burdens (Galatians 6:2).*
- *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another (Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13). Patiently bear with one another (Colossians 3:13).*
- *Speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15, 25).*
- *Address one another with psalms and hymns (Ephesians 5:19).*
- *Submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21).*
- *Cloth yourselves with humility toward one another (1 Peter 5:5).*
- *Count others more significant than yourselves (Philippians 2:3).*
- *Look to the interests of others (Philippians 2:4).*
- *Exhort one another (Hebrews 3:13).*
- *Stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24).*
- *Show hospitality to one another (1 Peter 4:9).*
- *Use the gifts that God has given to serve one another (1 Peter 4:10).*
- *Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another (James 5:16).*

- *Do not lie to one another (Colossians 3:9).*
- *Stop passing judgment on one another (Romans 14:13).*
- *Do not bite and devour (consume) one another (Galatians 5:15).*
- *Do not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another (Galatians 5:26).*
- *Do not speak evil against one another (James 4:11).*
- *Do not grumble against one another (James 5:9).*

- Ask the BGC pastors and deacons about the pressing needs of the church and how you can help.
- Talk to a pastor about leadership opportunities and share your desired area(s) of service.

Value Definitions*:

Christ-centered: Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are the apex of God's love displayed to the world; this is the central message of the Bible. Therefore, we want Christ to be front and center in our lives.

Spirit-filled: The Holy Spirit gives us spiritual life and empowers us for discipleship. Together, we seek a constant filling of the Holy Spirit so that we may abide in Christ, obey his word, and evidence the power and presence of God in our lives.

Biblically Formed: Through his word, God means to shape our lives and conform them to the way of Jesus. Minds saturated with the Bible are renewed by the Holy Spirit, which results in the transformation of lives and communities.

Meaningfully Connected: Our identity as disciples necessitates participation in gospel community. In other words, no Christian can live apart from meaningful, relational connections within the local church.

Joyfully Generous: Since God has been immeasurably generous to us in Christ, it is our joy to practice this same sacrificial generosity. We are committed to investing our time, talents, and money for God and others.

Humble: The gospel leads us to surrender our lives to God's will daily. We value service to others above simply living for our needs and wants. We honestly acknowledge sins, faults, and failures in hopes of growing in Christ-likeness.

Missional: Jesus has given us a clear mandate: to make disciples of all nations. Whether locally or abroad, we are each called to be witnesses of Christ. We tell and show others the love of Christ.

*For further explanation see the Gospel Partnership book.

