



As you are working through the questions used in the Discipleship Shape Tool you may not be clear on what exactly they mean. To help clarify, we have expanded below:

Under the heading "to what extent are we" you will find more on how to think through your answer to each question.

Under "can we see" we have offered a suggestion for how you begin moving yourself along the scale towards the centre.

HOW MUCH IS YOUR DAY-TO-DAY LIFE CHANGING AS YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE FOR JESUS?

To what extent are we:

Letting our knowledge of Jesus change our actions?

Following Jesus in our everyday life?

Can we see:

Ways our actions could align more with Jesus?

HOW COMMITTED ARE YOU TO A LOCAL CHURCH COMMUNITY?

To what extent are we:

Actively and regularly involved in church, small groups, other forms of community?

Members rather than just spectators in these communities?

Can we see:

Where we could increase our enthusiasm and passion for church and the people in it?

HOW MUCH WOULD YOU SAY YOUR FAITH LEADS YOU TO LOVE AND CARE FOR OTHERS?

To what extent are we:

Using our time, energy, and resources to love and care for those we encounter who need it?

Actively looking for opportunities to do this?

Can we see:

How God can help us care for even those people we find more difficult to love?

TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU HELPING OTHERS TO SERVE GOD BETTER?

To what extent are we:

Showing others how they can use the gifts God has given them?

Creating space for other people to serve God in different ways?

Can we see:

Anyone in our lives whom we could encourage or enable in the work God has given them to do?

HOW WILLING ARE YOU TO PUT IN HELPFUL BOUNDARIES?

To what extent are we:

Careful to leave space in our lives for rest so that we are not doing too much and over busy?

(Sometimes low self-esteem leads us to think so low of ourselves we become a doormat. Boundaries protect us from burn-out and stripping of our energy and resources. You are a treasure of God; boundaries will not allow people to trample on the image of God in us.)

Using wisdom to say no to opportunities and people when we feel we need to?

Can we see:

Places in our lives where we are too busy or "in demand" and need to readjust our priorities?

TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU SERVING JESUS IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHERS?

To what extent are we:

Including others in the things we do to serve God?

Willing to share the things we are doing and the things we are excited about?

Can we see:

Anything we are excited about doing at the moment where we could include someone else?

HOW MUCH ARE YOUR DAILY HABITS CHANGING TO REFLECT GOD'S HEART FOR HIS CREATION?

To what extent are we:

Limiting the negative environmental impact of our choices, such as the energy we use, our transport choices, the rubbish we produce and what we do with it, and the food we eat?

Making ethical choices in the way we shop and live our lives?

Can we see:

Any actions we could take that promote better care for our environment and world?

HOW MUCH DO TRAGEDY AND INJUSTICE MOVE YOU TO ACTION?

To what extent are we:

Affected when we hear of tragedies in the news and the lives of those in our community?

Moved to do something as a result of this, such as care for someone, sign a petition, write to an MP, take part in protests or actions to change situations?

Can we see:

Where we have been moved by tragedy or injustice and haven't done anything about it yet?

HOW ENGAGED ARE YOU IN PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY PRAYER LIFE?

To what extent are we:

Having time to regularly pray both on our own and with others?

Actively engaged in these times of prayer?

Can we see:

How God can make us more excited about prayer?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU COMPLETELY OPEN AND HONEST ABOUT YOUR STRENGTHS AND FAILURES WITH ONE OR TWO CLOSE FRIENDS?

To what extent are we:

Finding friends with whom we can be honest and support each other in prayer?

Using these friendships to challenge each other to draw closer to Jesus?

Can we see:

Anyone in our lives with whom we could pray and begin to talk through some of these discipleship issues?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT ARE AREAS OF SIN AND BROKENNESS IN OUR LIVES BEING CHANGED BY JESUS?

To what extent are we:

Seeing things in our life that Jesus wants us to change?

Being proactive in bringing them to God and seeing them changed?

Can we see:

An area that God is currently working on in our lives and anything we can do about this?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD BEING REGULARLY CULTIVATED AND DEEPENED?

To what extent are we:

Creating time and space to get to know God better?

Seeing Him change our hearts as we get to know Him better?

Can we see:

A time or place where we could spend some time just to "be" in His presence and let Him draw close to us?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT IS YOUR HEART IN LINE WITH GOD'S LOVE AND DESIRES?

To what extent are we:

Growing in our knowledge of what God desires for us and others?

Seeing in the things that inspire, enthuse or challenge us a reflection of how God feels?

Can we see:

A passion or desire in our heart that we think God wants to expand?

[Q] HOW MUCH DO THE BIBLE AND YOUR BELIEFS IMPACT YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS CULTURE, THE WORLD AND YOUR COMMUNITY?

To what extent are we:

Thinking through what the Bible has to say about issues we encounter in the news, our workplaces, friendships, families and communities?

Having our attitudes changed by our faith rather than the circumstances we find ourselves in?

Can we see:

A situation in which God might want to use us to speak His wisdom?

[Q] ARE YOU OPEN TO WRESTLING WITH AND BEING CHALLENGED ABOUT THINGS YOU BELIEVE?

To what extent are we:

Willing to embrace questions about faith as a way to grow?

Looking to Jesus in the areas of our faith we find difficult or don't understand?

Can we see:

An area of what we believe where God might want to challenge us or expand our mind further?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU ALLOWING YOURSELF TO LEARN FROM THOSE WHO THINK DIFFERENTLY TO YOU?

To what extent are we:

Listening to those we agree with as well as those we disagree with?

Making space in our lives to talk with, listen to sermons by, or read books from people who may have a different perspective on life than ours?

Can we see:

Someone unlike us from whom we may be able to learn something?

[Q] HOW MUCH DO YOU REGULARLY SPEND TIME ENGAGING WITH THE BIBLE?

To what extent are we:

Reading or working through parts of the Bible ourselves?

Engaging with the Bible in other ways, such as through books, podcasts, sermons, small groups or church?

Can we see:

A time in our day when we could regularly read, hear or think about the Bible a little more?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU REGULARLY DISCOVERING MORE ABOUT JESUS AND HIS WORK IN OUR WORLD?

To what extent are we:

Growing in our knowledge of who Jesus is?

Learning more about what Jesus has done and wants to do in the world around us?

Can we see:

Something about Jesus that we can learn more about?

[Q] HOW MUCH DO YOU REGULARLY DISCUSS YOUR FAITH WITH OTHERS?

To what extent are we:

Discussing the things we believe and have learnt with others in our church, small groups, etc.?

Talking about God with people who wouldn't call themselves Christians?

Can we see:

Anyone we know with whom we could pray for an opportunity to talk about faith?

[Q] TO WHAT EXTENT DOES YOUR READING OF THE BIBLE POINT YOU TOWARDS JESUS AND HOW TO LIVE FOR HIM?

To what extent are we:

Engaging with the Bible on a deep level so we learn more about Jesus each time we read it?

Seeing from the Bible more about how Jesus wants us to live?

Can we see:

Any ways we could go a little deeper in our interactions with the Bible?