



# The Spiritual Life Story of Sample School ABC March 2020



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# Prologue

## Understanding Your Story

Goal: To start with an overview of how to view and interpret the spiritual life story of your school

# God's First Question

God's first question appears in Genesis 3:9 when He asks Adam,

*Where are you?*

He's not asking about Adam's physical location. Instead he's probing Adam's shame and confusion resulting from his disobedience by asking, "Where are you, Adam, (inferring) *in relationship to me?*"

This Scripture is the hallmark of the REVEAL Spiritual Life Survey because it reflects the heart of the survey's two goals:

- In the *Student Profile*, **to answer God's first question for your students** to give you a snapshot of their spiritual health.
- In the *School Support*, **to identify high-potential opportunities for the school** to help deepen their relationship with God.

# Two Pieces of Advice

## **#1 - Remember that this is more about your students than your school**

When they first came to your school, your students brought with them a lifetime of spiritual experiences, biases, beliefs, and habits that had *nothing* to do with you. The intent of this survey is to measure the impact of their spiritual history, plus their experiences with your school, on their current relationship with God.

## **#2 - Find your story in the numbers**

This report contains many numbers. Please don't get bogged down by them. Look instead for themes—the one or two big issues reinforced across multiple slides that will catapult the spiritual growth of your students if you address them.

# Chapter 1

## Background and Demographics

Goal: For you to get a picture of who responded to the Spiritual Life Survey.

# Sample School ABC Background

## **Spiritual Life Survey Approach**

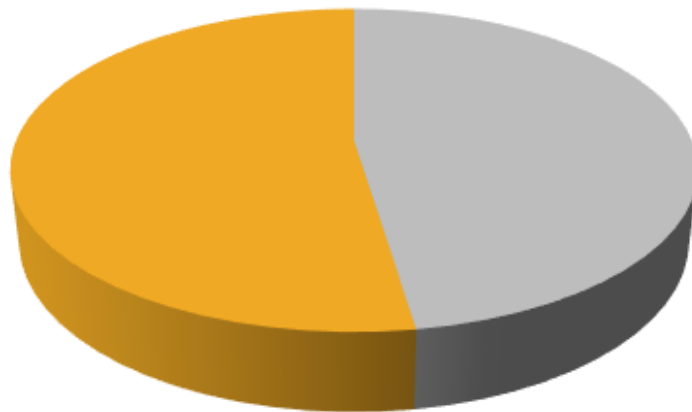
- The Spiritual Life Survey captures insights for school leaders on the spiritual health of their students and the role the school plays in their spiritual growth.
- It includes over 50 questions about a student's spiritual attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors as well as the importance and satisfaction with the school meeting various spiritual growth needs
- The survey is fielded on a web-only platform; participation is voluntary.

## **Spiritual Life Survey Results**

- Christian High School Sample School ABC responses = 250 (50% of your school attendance)

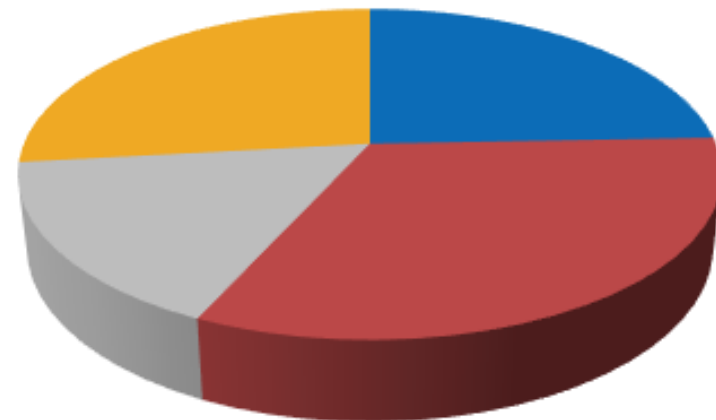
# Sample School ABC Demographics

## Gender



■ Male ■ Female

## Class



■ Freshmen ■ Sophomores  
■ Juniors ■ Seniors

Base: 250



# Sample School ABC

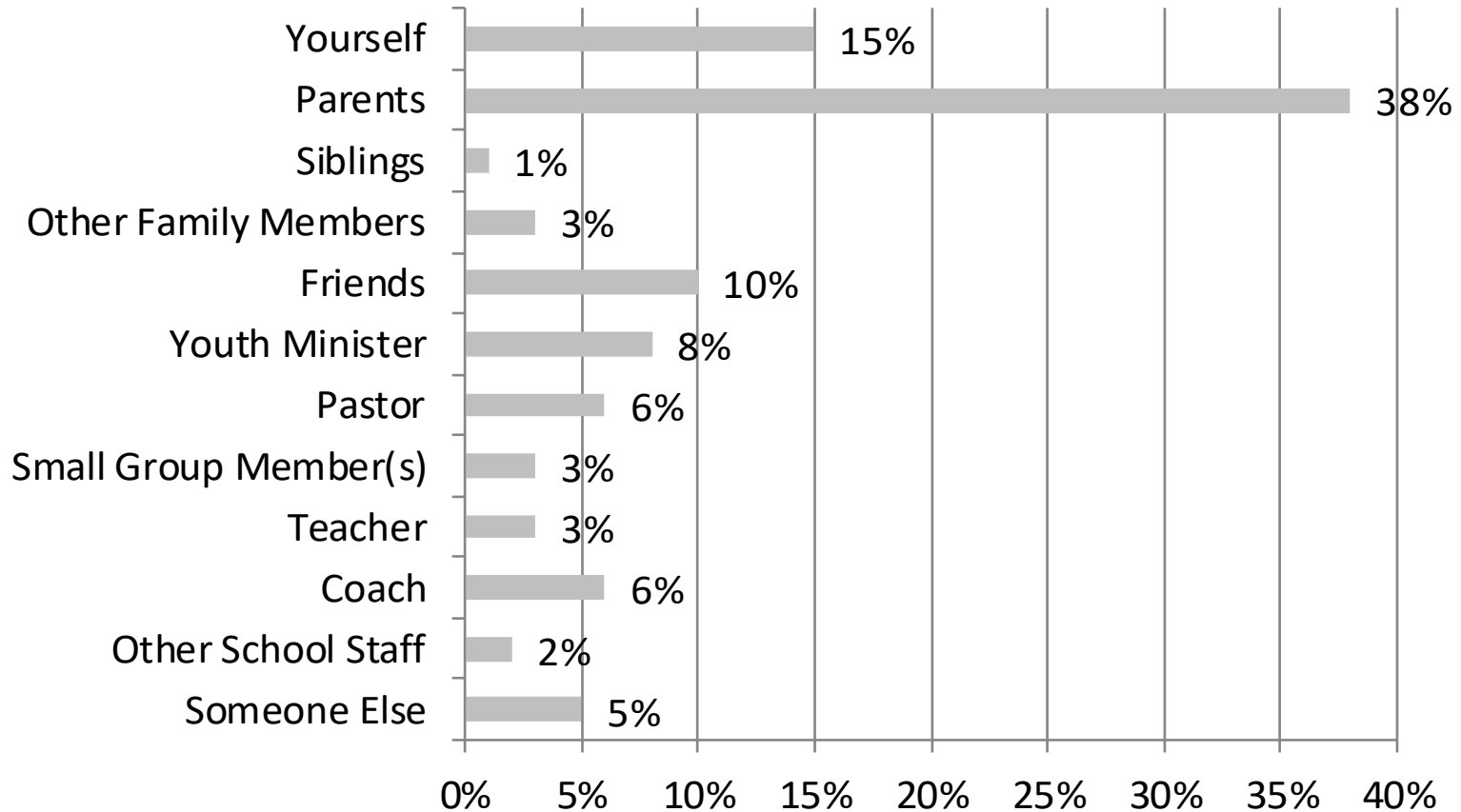
## Student-Indicated Church Affiliation

Church Denomination:	Total
Association of Vineyard	0%
Assemblies of God	0%
Baptist	7%
Brethren/Mennonite	0%
Christian Reformed/Reformed Church	37%
Christian & Missionary Alliance	1%
Church of Christ	2%
Church of God	2%
Episcopalian	0%
Evangelical Free	0%
Lutheran	11%
Base:	241

Church Denomination:	Total
Methodist	0%
Nazarene	1%
Orthodox	2%
Presbyterian	4%
Roman Catholic	3%
Seventh Day Adventist/Adventist	0%
United Church of Christ	0%
Wesleyan	0%
Non-Denominational	18%
Other	3%
I am not sure	6%
Base:	241

# Sample School ABC

## Student's Biggest Influence on Spiritual Growth



Base: 240

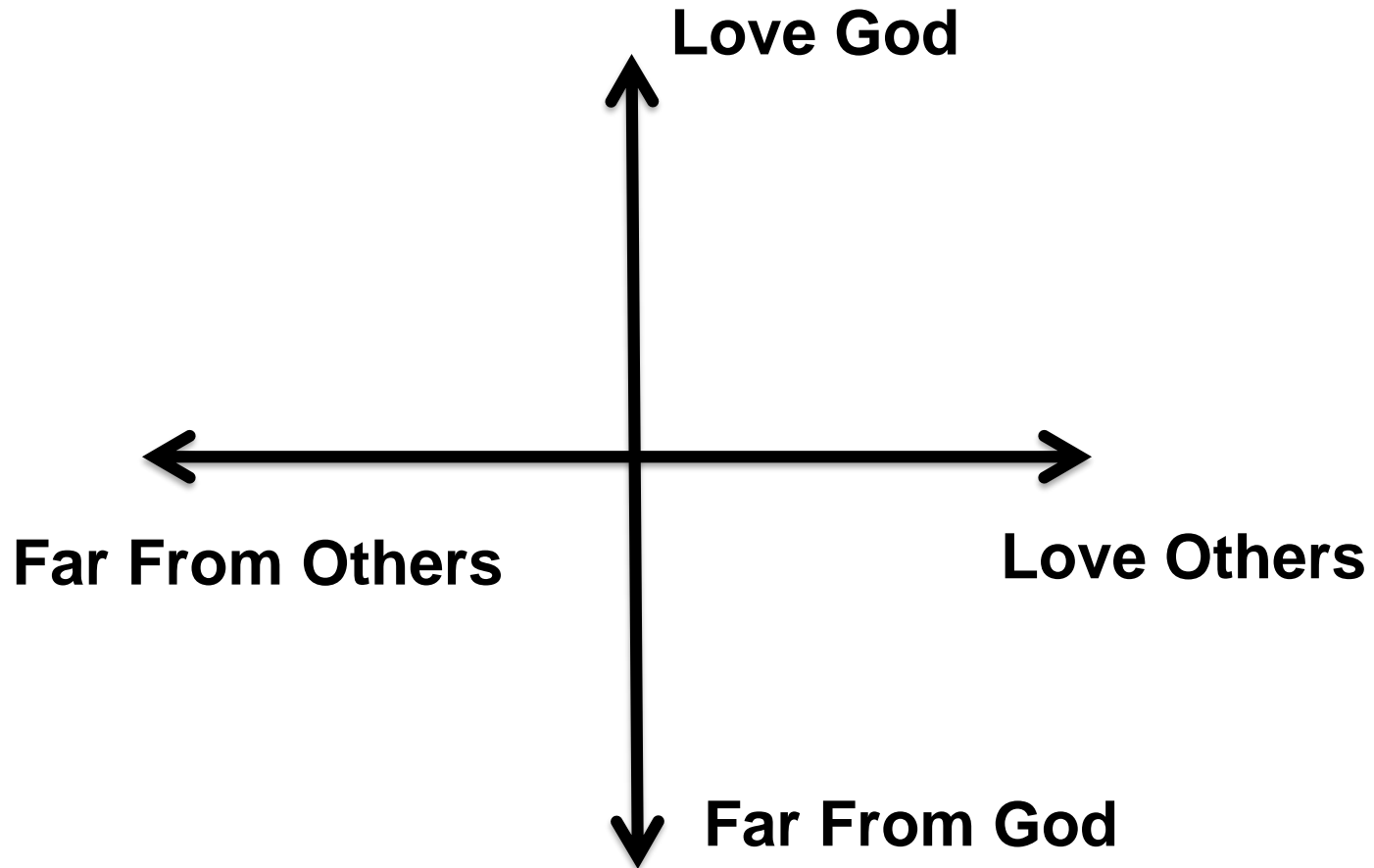
# Chapter 2

## Overall Spiritual Journey

Goal: For you to get a broad understanding of ...

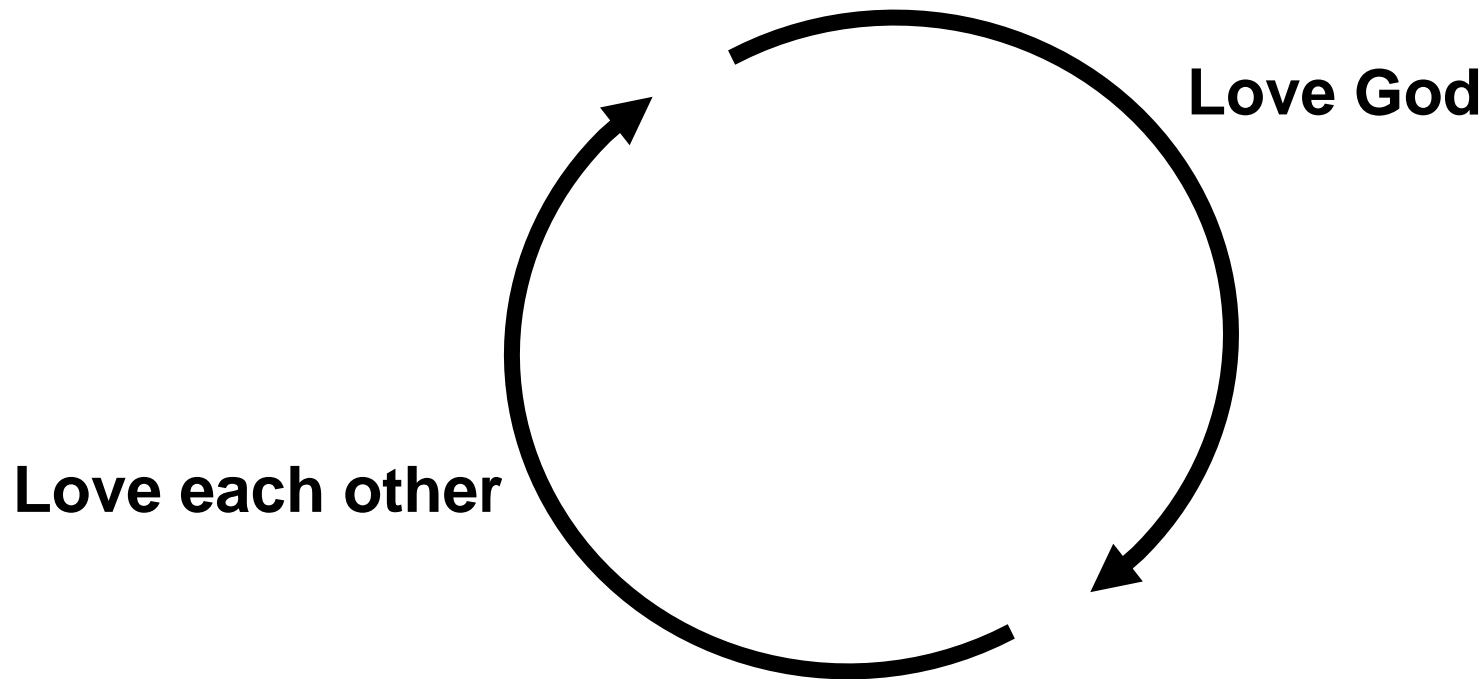
*Where are you?*

# There is a vertical dimension to our life (that is, loving God) and a horizontal dimension to our life (that is, loving others)



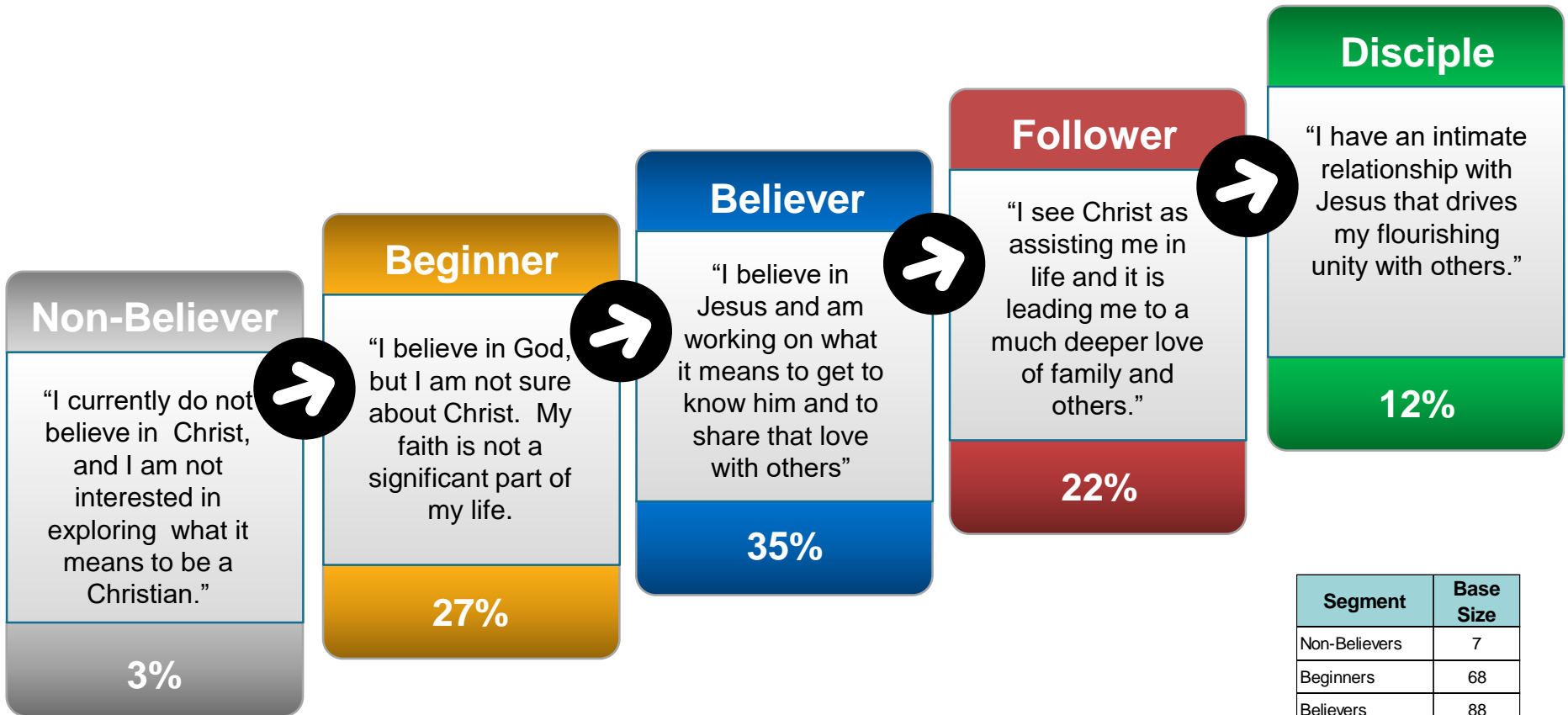
Source: [Connecting Church](#) – Randy Frazee

**Loving God and loving each other are not mutually exclusive. Rather, they feed off each other to produce the end objective - becoming a disciple.**



**Source: Connecting Church – Randy Frazee**

# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profile

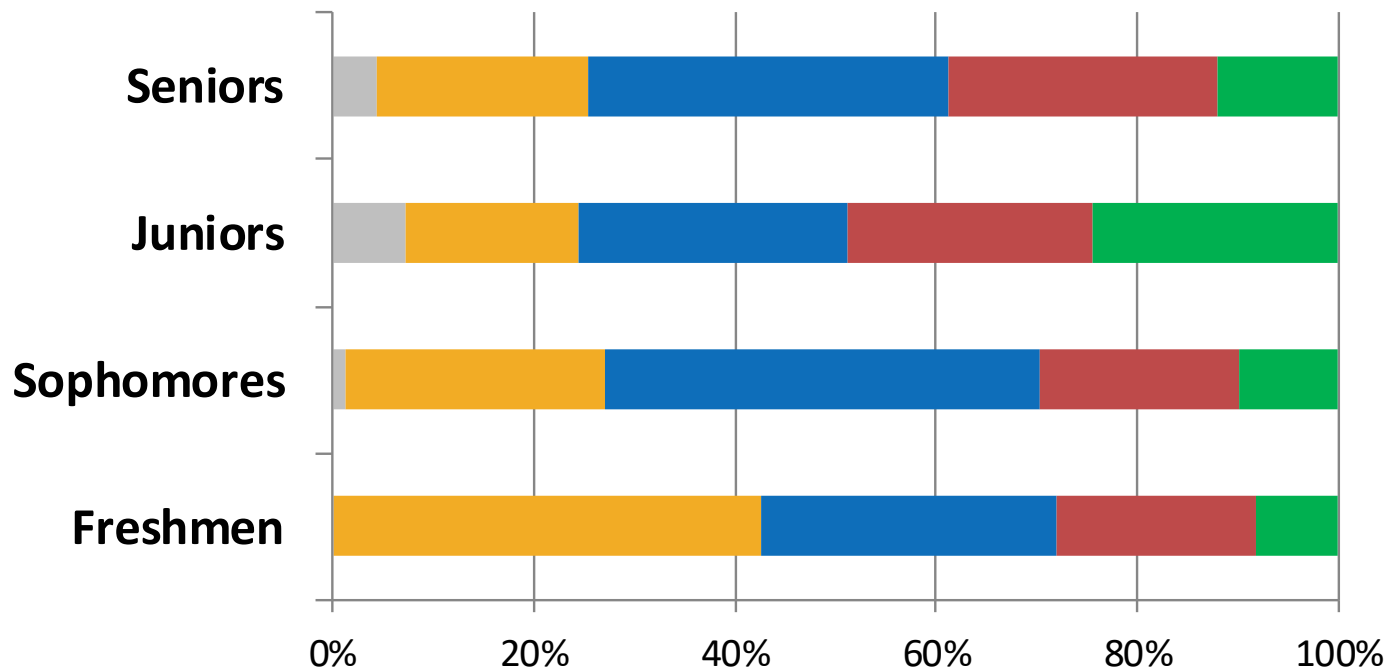


Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31

# Sample School ABC

## Spiritual Continuum Profile by Class

■ Non-Believer 
 ■ Beginner 
 ■ Believer 
 ■ Follower 
 ■ Disciple



Class	Base Size
Freshmen	61
Sophomores	81
Juniors	41
Seniors	67

# Sample School ABC Student Spiritual Vitality Gauge

The **Student Spiritual Vitality Gauge (StVG)** was developed to provide a comprehensive measure of students' spiritual growth. The specific statements included in the StVG were chosen from 30 possible Christian Life Profile items (CLP) to represent Beliefs, Spiritual Practices, and Faith in Action. The items selected were those found to be most discriminating between students in different stages of spiritual maturity in a discriminant function analysis.

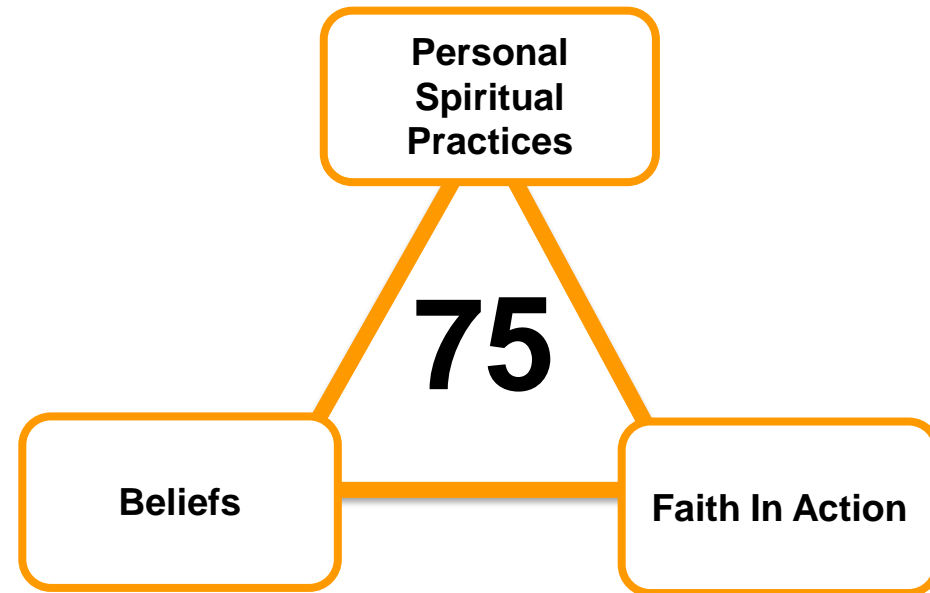
In essence, this single number score allows school ministers and administrators to assess the impact of the school on student spiritual formation and to evaluate programming changes.

Key questions:

**First: Beliefs.** To what level do students agree with the core Christian belief of the Trinity? How much do students believe that they exist to know, love and serve God? Finally, to what extent do students believe that God is actively involved in their life?

**Next: Personal Spiritual Practices.** Are students seeking to grow closer to God in prayer? Do they study the Bible on their own? Are they willing to allow other Christians to hold them accountable for their actions?

**Third: Faith in Action.** How much are students willing to risk everything that is important in their life for Jesus Christ? Do students agree that God's grace enables them to forgive people who have hurt them? Are they using their spiritual gifts to fulfill God's purpose?



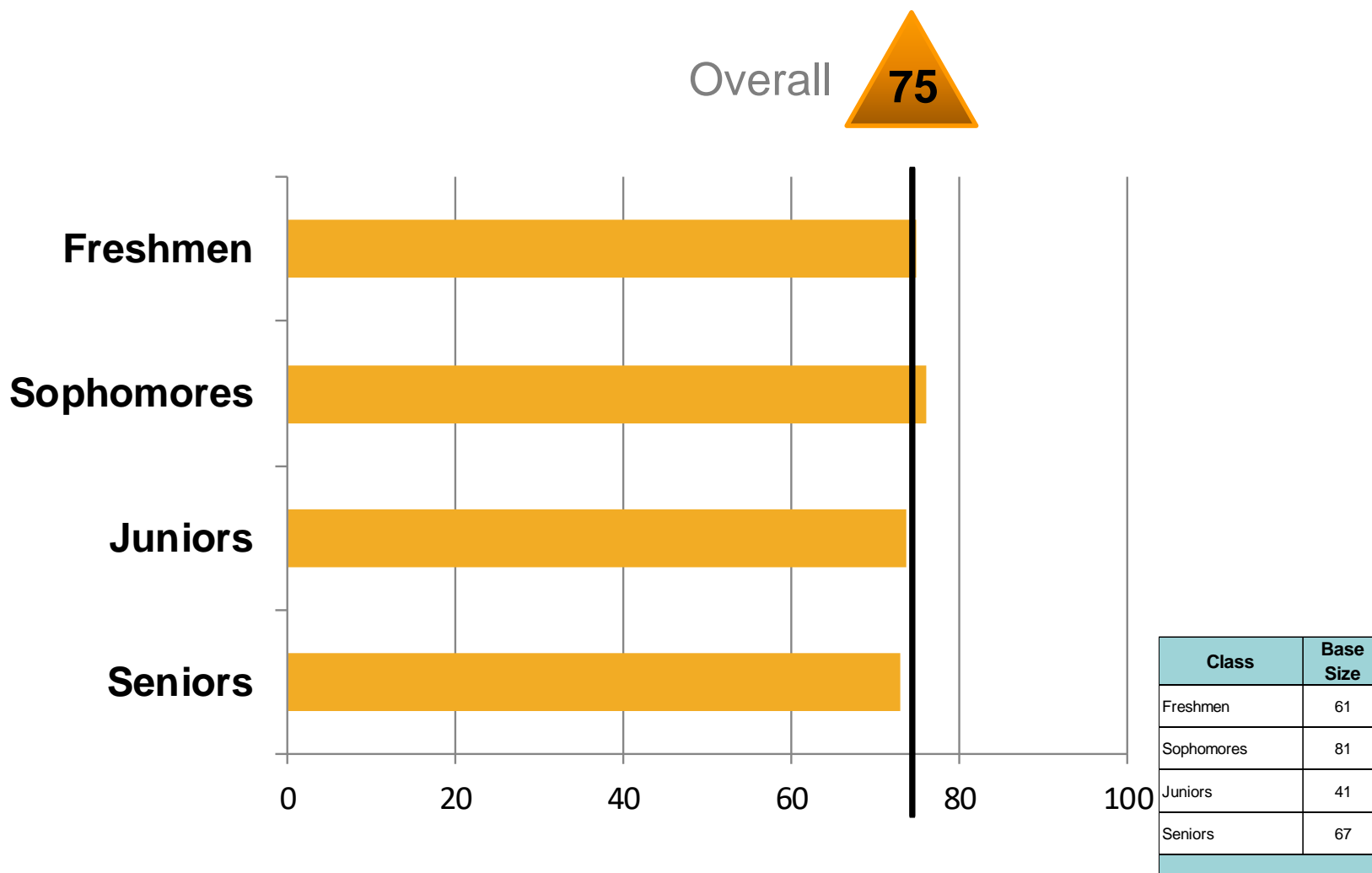
## How the StVG is Calculated:

In calculating the StVG, all nine items were given equal weight. The numerical scores for each student's responses to the nine items were summed and then divided by the total possible score for this set of items. The resulting decimal was converted to a percentage and averaged across all students to produce a score that represents the school's StVG on a scale of 0 to 100.



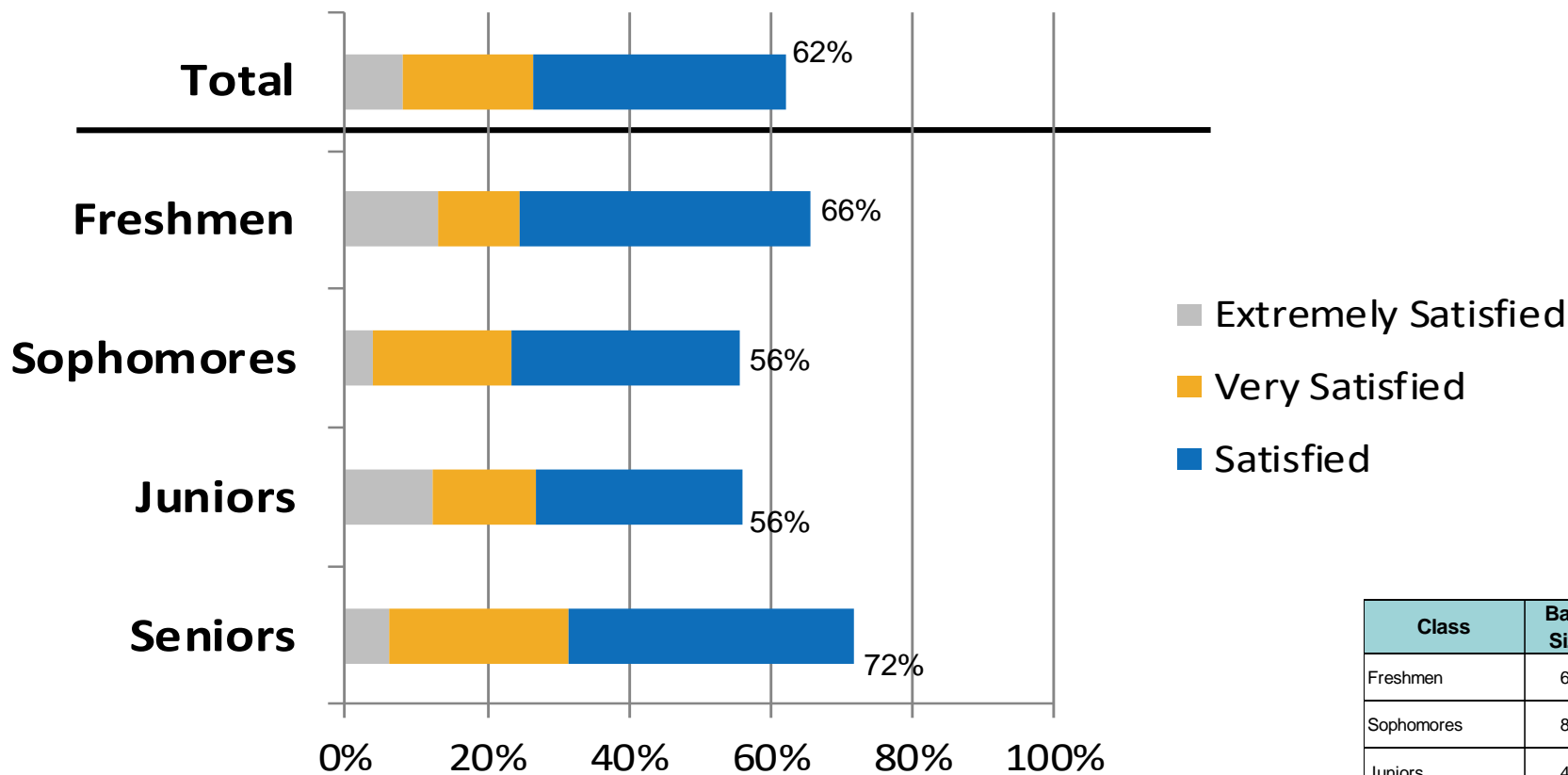
# Sample School ABC

## Student Spiritual Vitality Gauge by Class



# Sample School ABC

## Overall Satisfaction with School's Role in Spiritual Growth by Class

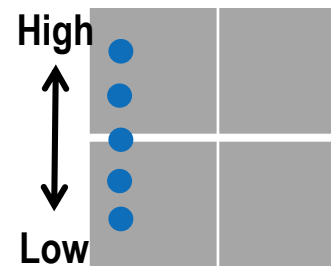


Class	Base Size
Freshmen	61
Sophomores	81
Juniors	41
Seniors	67

# Benefit Analysis Calculation – Two Simple Steps

The benefit analysis results from the following questions/techniques:

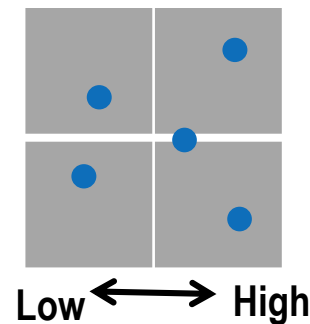
1. How **impactful** is this school benefit on students' growth
  - Impact = effect on Student Spiritual Vitality Gauge (StVG)



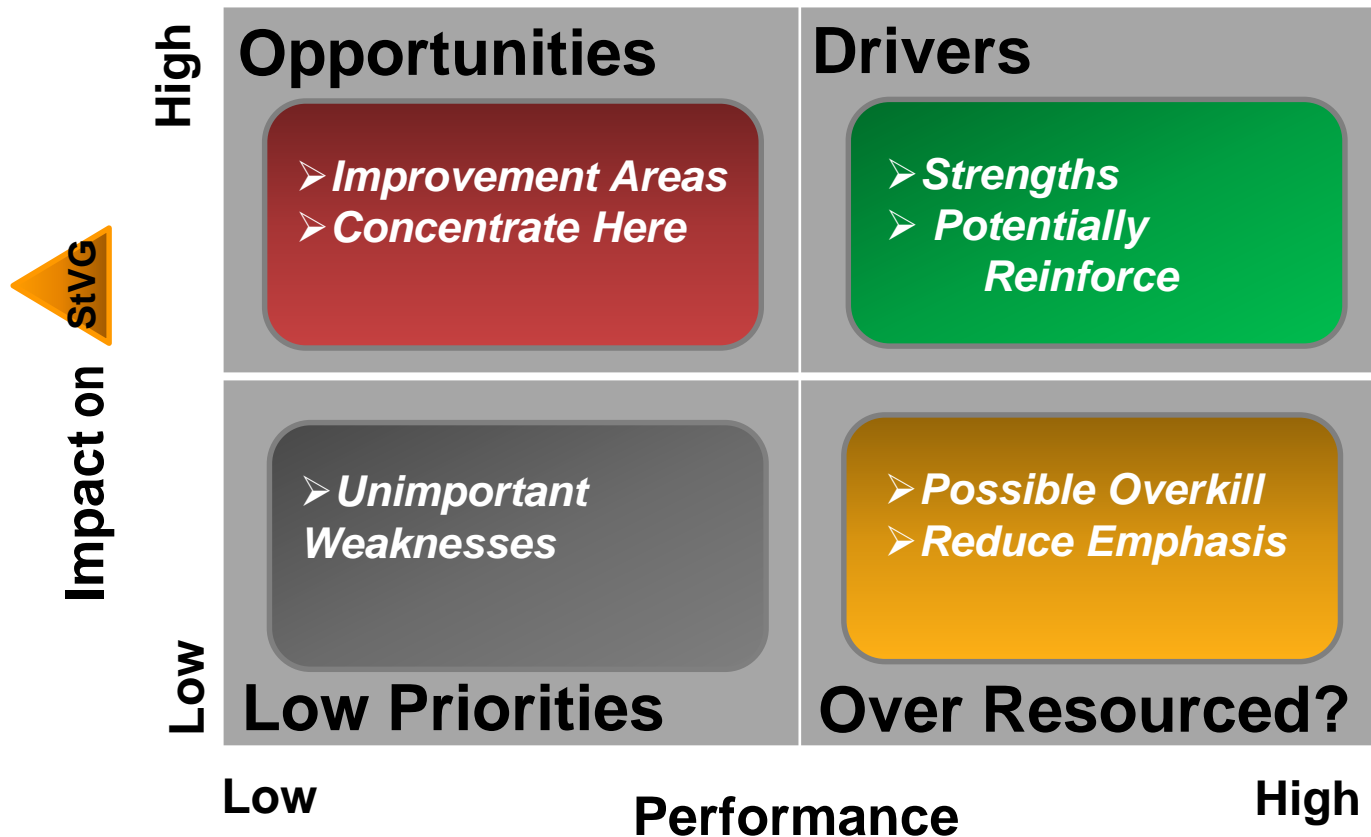
Regression of school benefits on



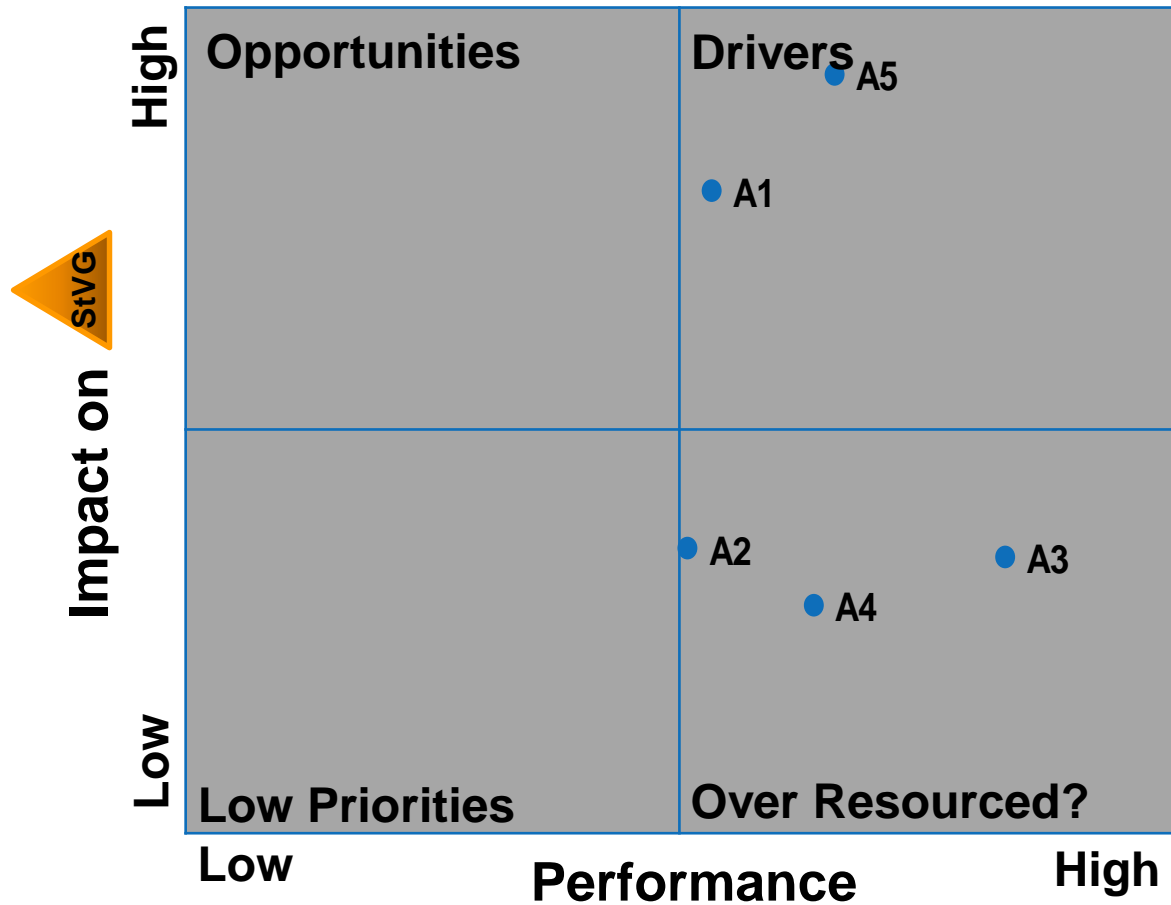
2. How **satisfied** students are with the school on this benefit
  - Performance = number of standard deviations from the mean



# Benefit Analysis Explanation



# Sample School ABC Benefits Analysis Looking at Support of *Spiritual Growth*



**A1:** Helps me develop a personal relationship with Christ

**A2:** Challenges me to grow and take next steps spiritually

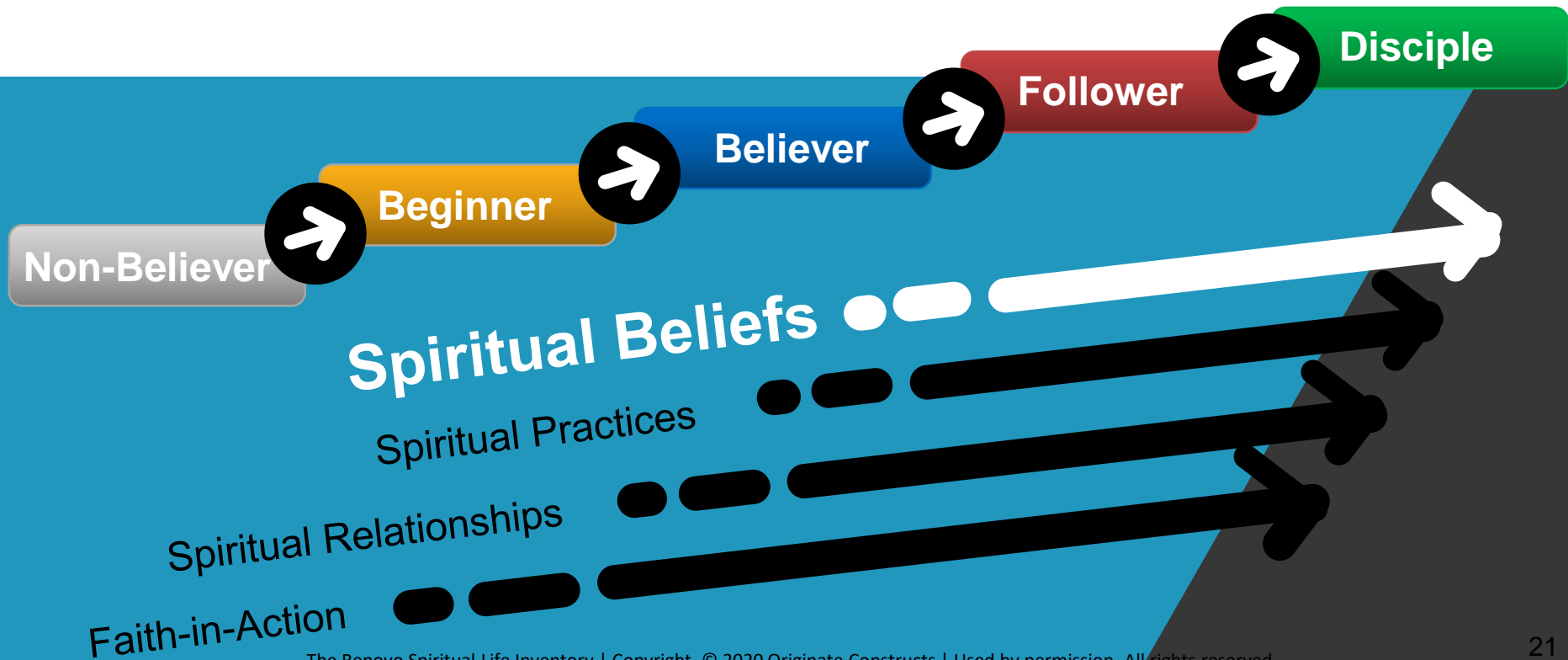
**A3:** Has teachers/faculty that model and consistently reinforce how to grow spiritually

**A4:** Encourages me to take personal responsibility for my own spiritual growth

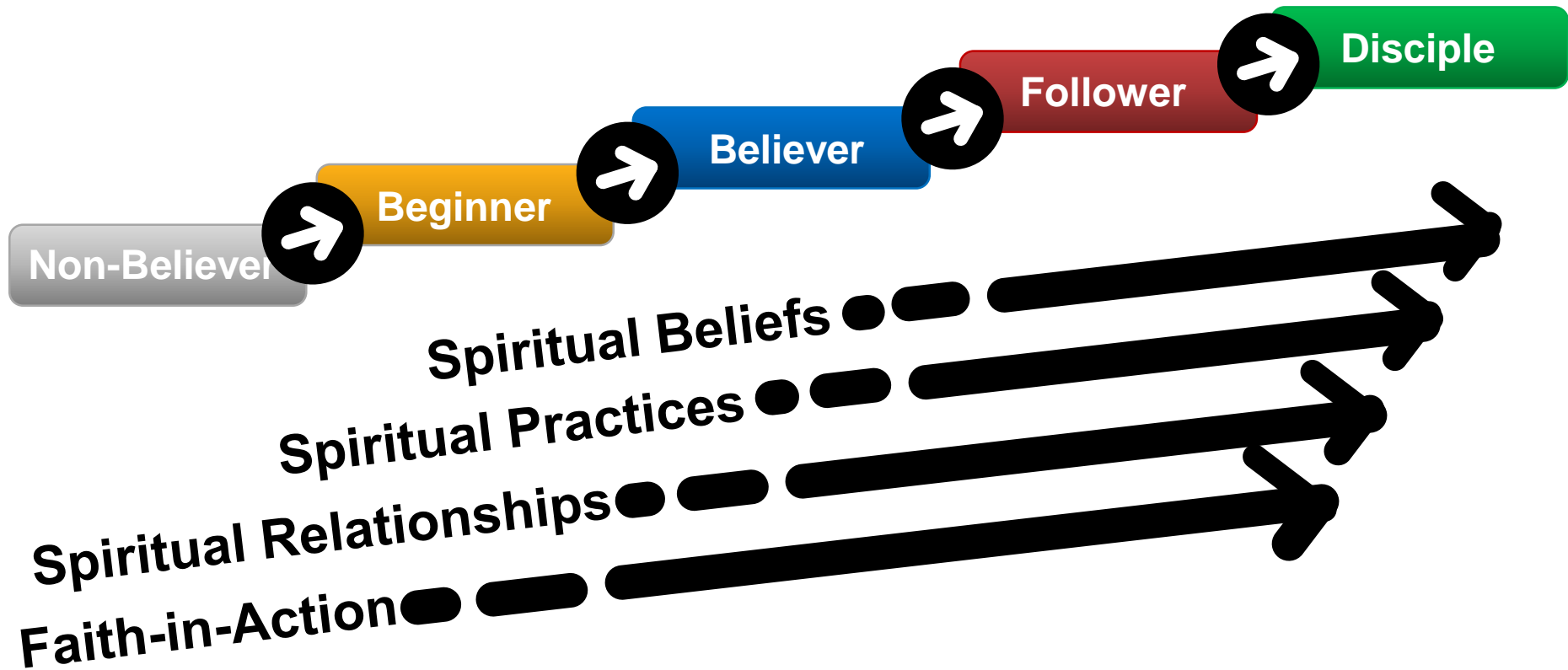
**A5:** Provides opportunities to build meaningful relationships with adults who support my spiritual journey

# Chapter 3

Goal: For you to get a better understanding of how spiritual beliefs are catalytic to movement from...



# We looked at four categories of spiritual catalysts that advance spiritual growth.



# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against Christian Life Profile *Beliefs*

<b>Key CLP Beliefs:</b> <i>(Very Strongly Agree or Strongly Agree)</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Non-Believers</b>	<b>Beginners</b>	<b>Believers</b>	<b>Followers</b>	<b>Disciples</b>
<b>Trinity</b>	82%	0%	69%	85%	91%	100%
<b>Salvation by Grace</b>	58%	14%	40%	65%	61%	81%
<b>Authority of the Bible</b>	52%	0%	37%	50%	59%	87%
<b>Personal God</b>	59%	0%	32%	55%	86%	97%
<b>Identity in Christ</b>	69%	0%	54%	69%	80%	97%
<b>Church</b>	45%	0%	32%	45%	55%	61%
<b>Humanity</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Compassion</b>	58%	0%	47%	59%	59%	87%
<b>Eternity</b>	53%	0%	40%	56%	59%	77%
<b>Stewardship</b>	58%	0%	40%	64%	63%	90%
Base:	250	7	68	88	56	31

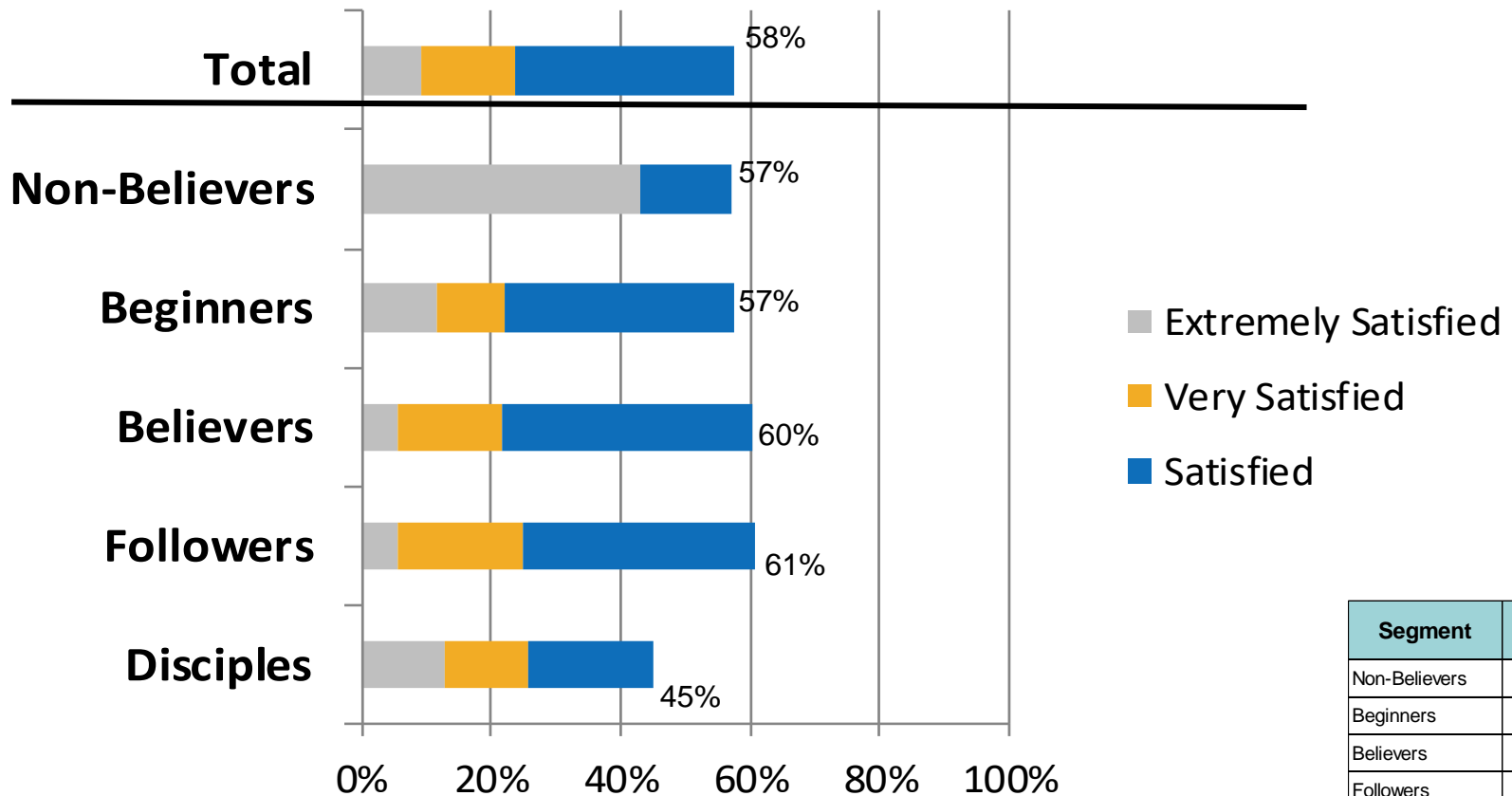


# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against *Image of God*

<b>Image of God:</b> <i>(Very Strongly Agree or Strongly Agree) or (Disagree or Somewhat disagree)</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Non- Believers</b>	<b>Beginners</b>	<b>Believers</b>	<b>Followers</b>	<b>Disciples</b>
<b>It does not matter if I pray or not</b> <i>(Disagree)</i>	77%	14%	60%	82%	93%	84%
<b>God does not seem to notice when I am sad</b> <i>(Disagree)</i>	65%	14%	47%	66%	88%	74%
<b>God helps me to keep going, even when things are hard</b>	59%	14%	37%	55%	80%	90%
<b>I am not good enough for God to love</b> <i>(Disagree)</i>	58%	43%	50%	57%	70%	65%
<b>I see the direct hand of God in many areas of my life</b>	37%	14%	18%	23%	57%	87%
Base:	250	7	68	88	56	31

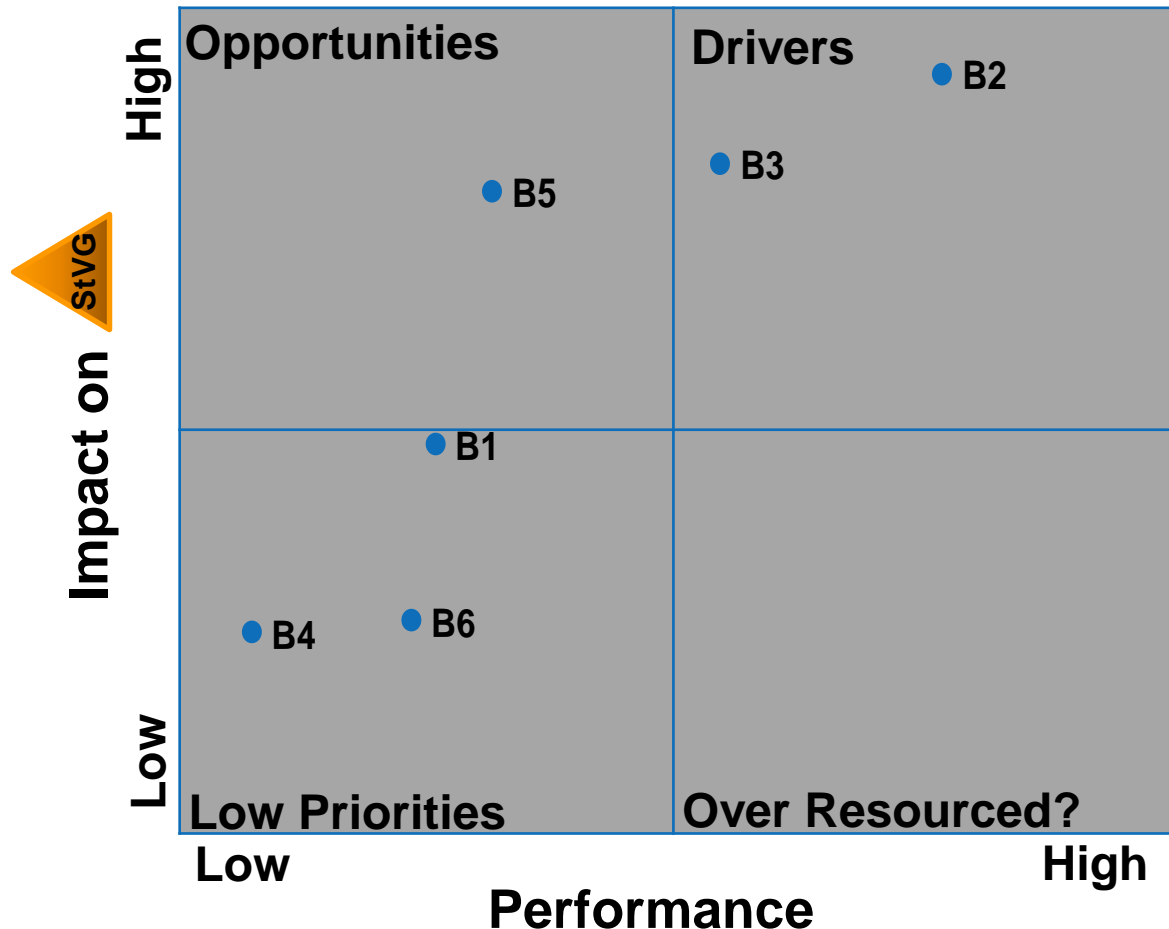
# Sample School ABC

## Overall Satisfaction with School's Role in Developing One's Faith



Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31

# Sample School ABC Benefits Analysis Looking at Support of *Developing One's Faith*



**B1:** Helps me practice talking about my faith

**B2:** Teaches me the words, stories and key messages of my faith

**B3:** Inspires me to make my faith an active part of my life

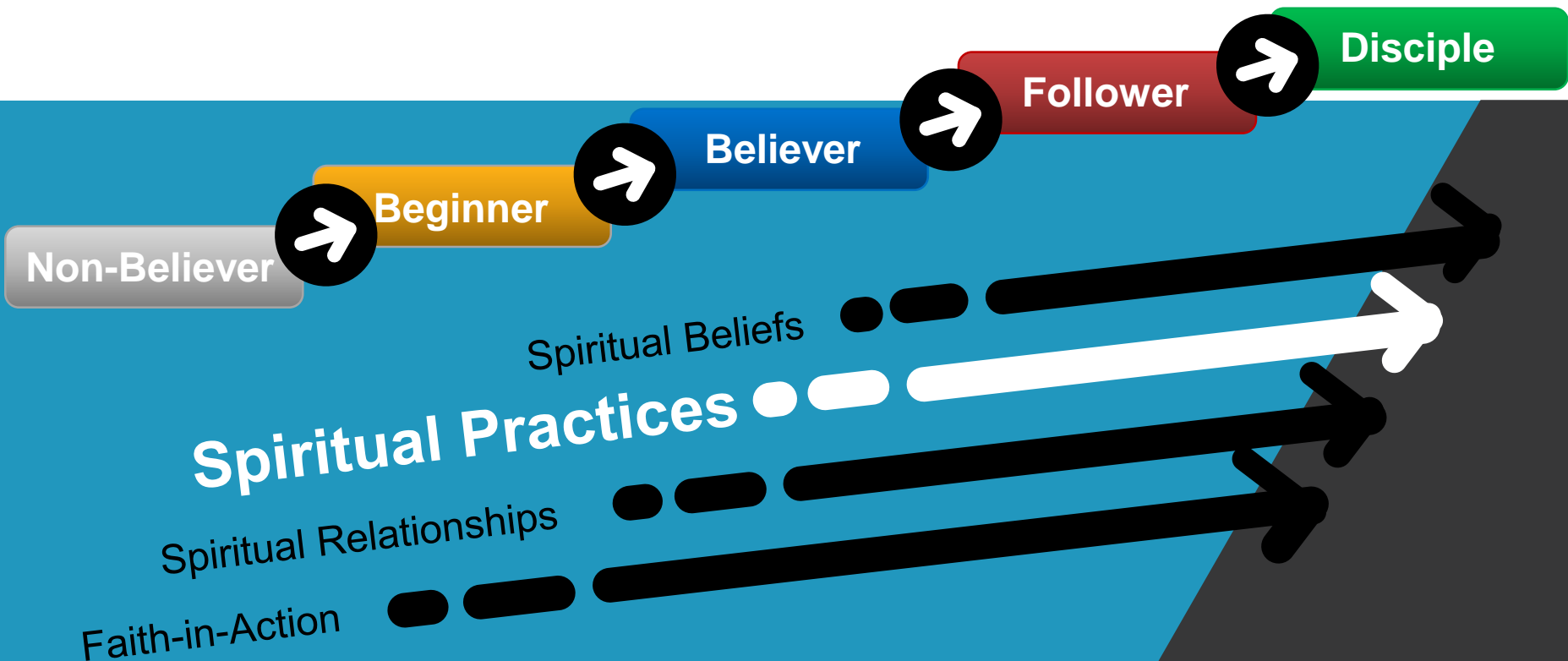
**B4:** Helps my parents get more involved in their own faith development

**B5:** Provides worthwhile suggestions on how to work through barriers in my faith development

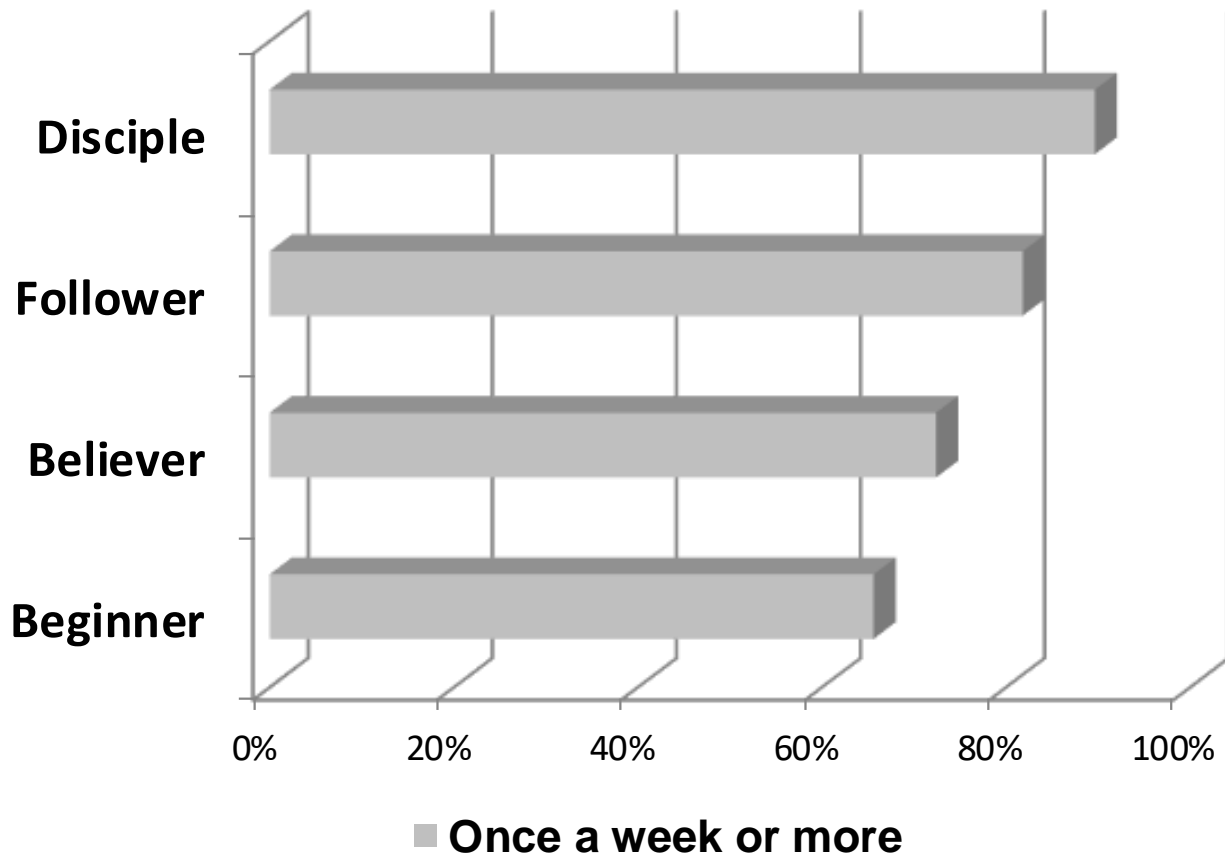
**B6:** Helps me process doubts that I might have about my faith in a constructive way

# Chapter 4

Goal: For you to get a better understanding of how spiritual practices are catalytic to movement from...



# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against Church Attendance

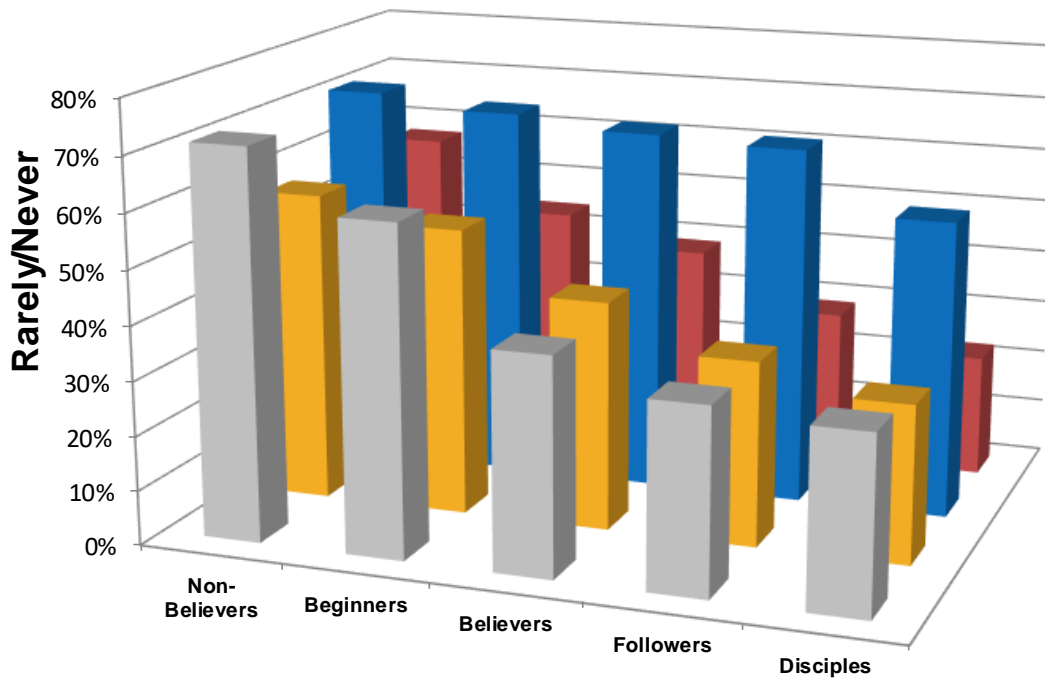


Segment	Base Size
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31

# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against Personal Spiritual Practices

<b>Spiritual Practices:</b> <i>(Several Times a Week or More – Outside of School)</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Non-Believers</b>	<b>Beginners</b>	<b>Believers</b>	<b>Followers</b>	<b>Disciples</b>
<b>I read the Bible</b>	36%	29%	22%	33%	36%	74%
<b>I reflect on the meaning of Scripture in my life</b>	35%	14%	13%	31%	50%	74%
<b>I pray for others</b>	70%	29%	46%	70%	93%	94%
<b>I pray to give thanks to God</b>	73%	14%	53%	73%	93%	97%
<b>I pray to express my love of God</b>	62%	14%	34%	59%	89%	90%
<b>I pray to seek guidance for my life</b>	65%	14%	46%	61%	84%	97%
<b>I pray to confess my sins</b>	69%	29%	46%	69%	89%	90%
<b>I specifically set time aside for solitude with God</b>	28%	14%	12%	20%	43%	58%
Base:	250	7	68	88	56	31

# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against Family Spiritual Practices – Rarely/Never

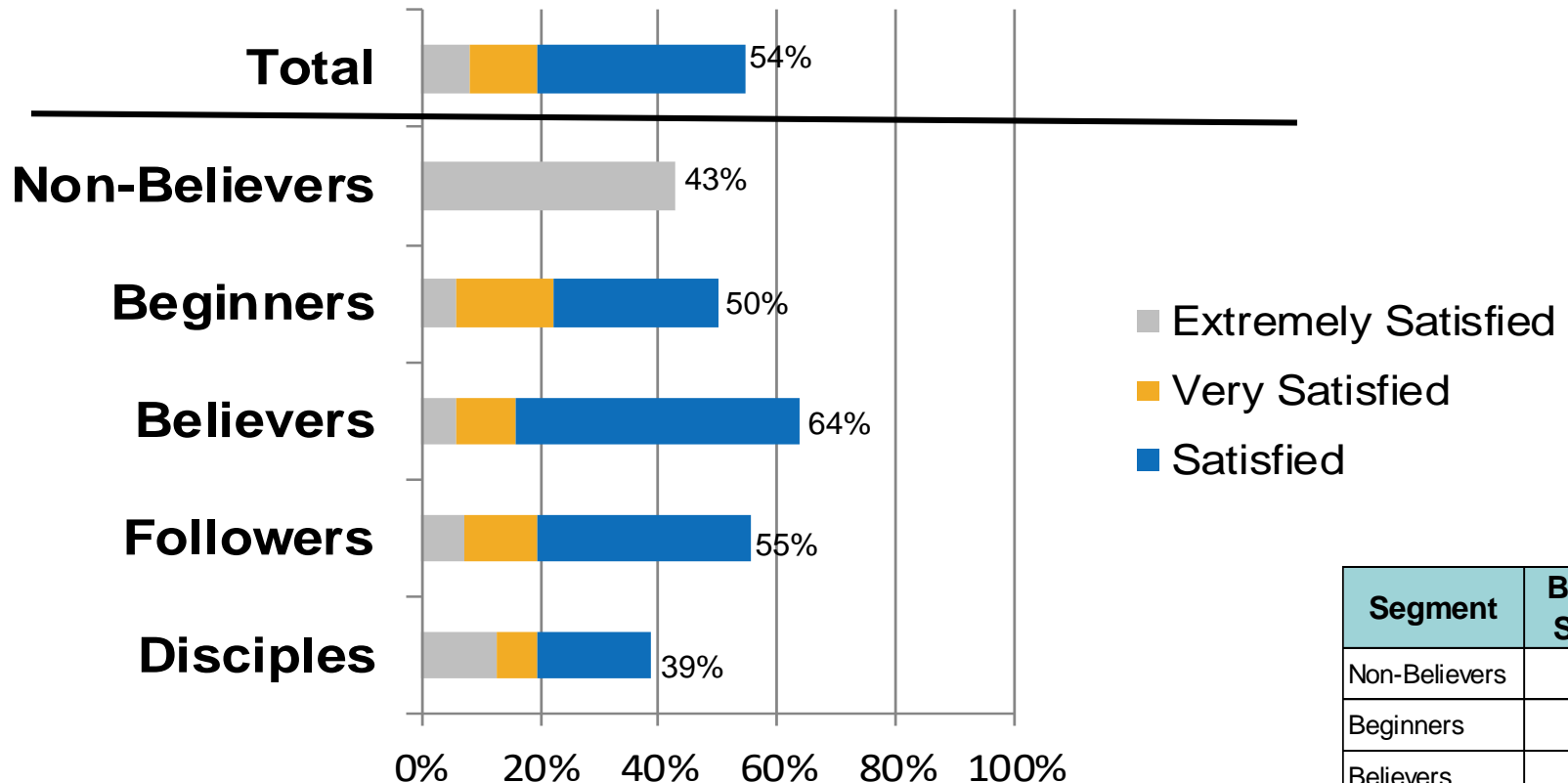


- Parent(s) ask how they can pray for you
- Parent(s) discuss how Scripture guides your family
- Participate in service projects as a family
- Parent(s) speak to you about their life with God

Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31

# Sample School ABC

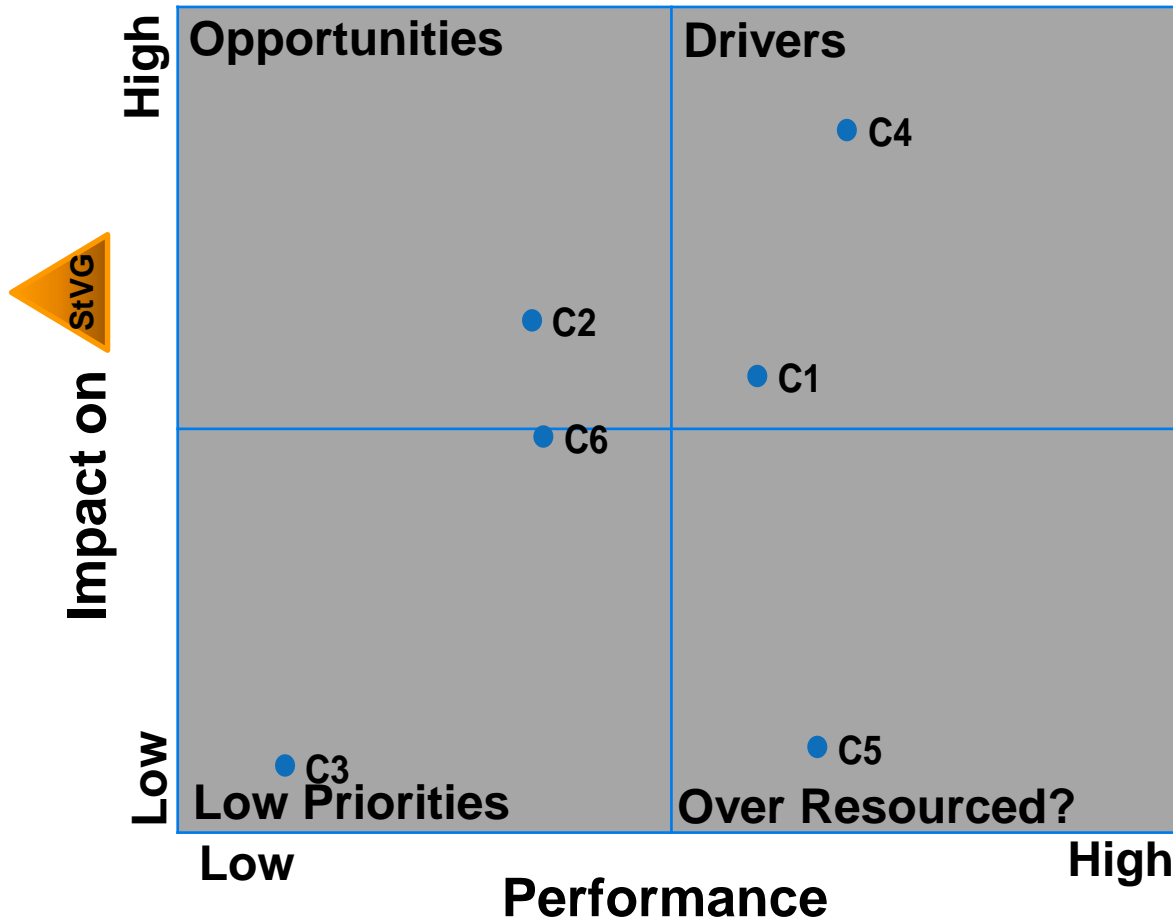
## Overall Satisfaction with School's Role in Supporting Spiritual Practices



Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31



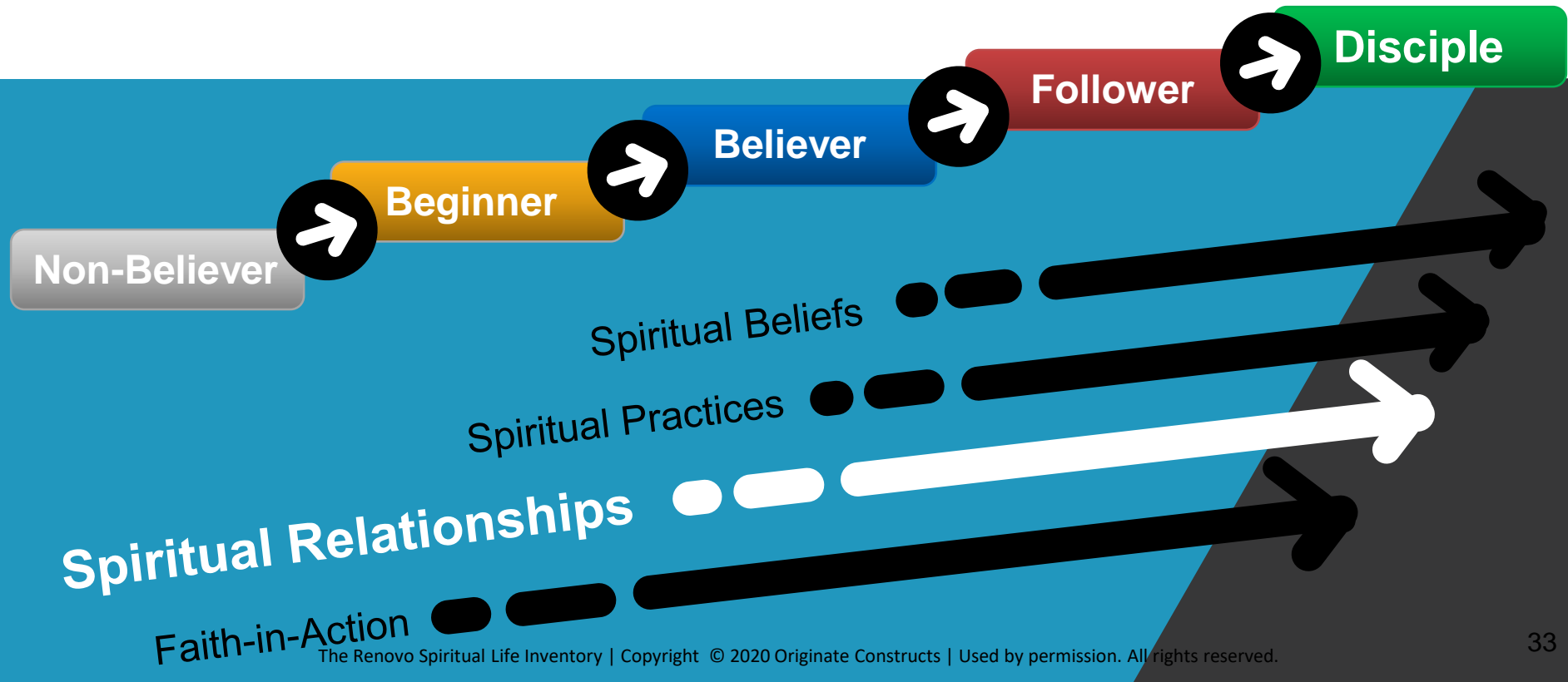
# Sample School ABC Benefits Analysis Looking at Support of *Spiritual Practices*



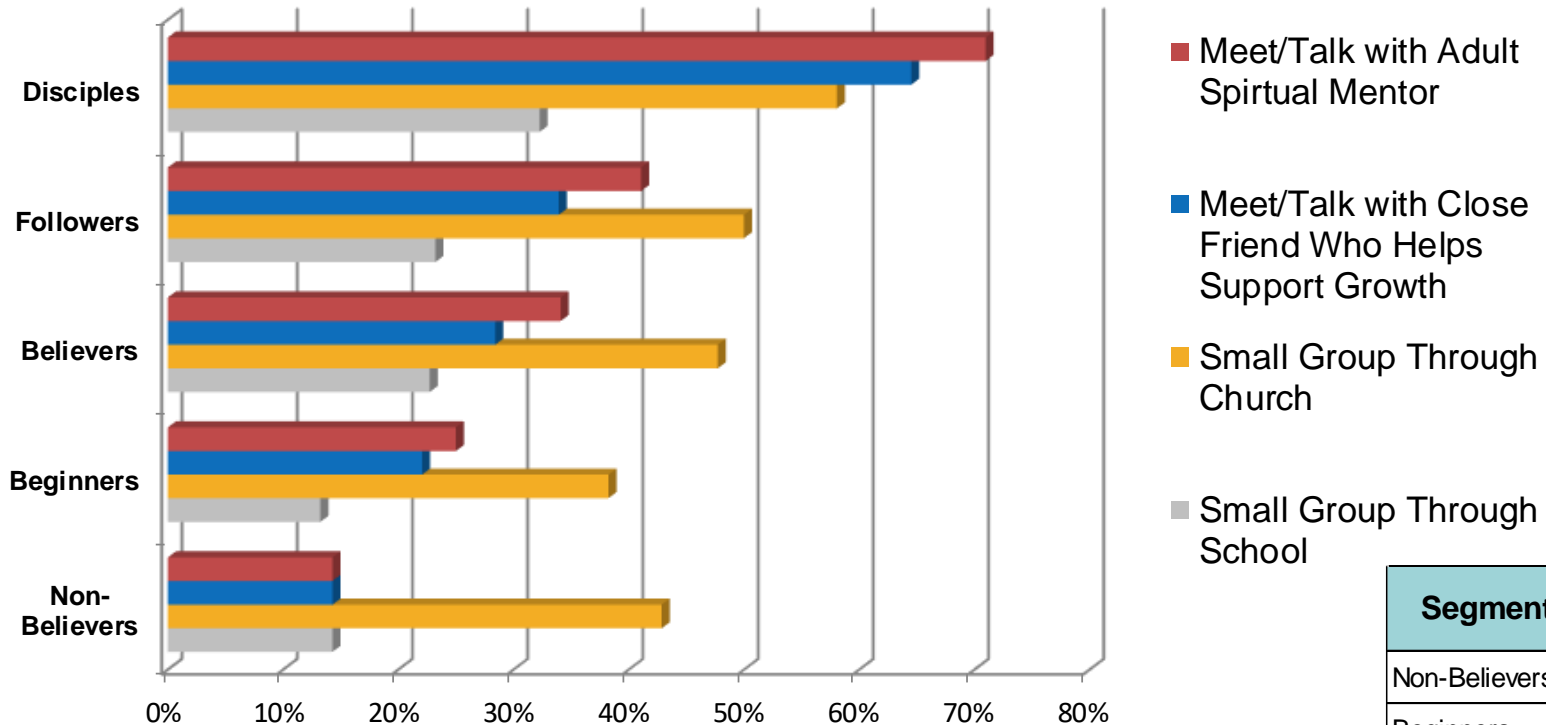
- C1:** Helps me understand the Bible in greater depth
- C2:** Helps me develop a prayer life that connects me with God regularly
- C3:** Helps me learn how to develop quiet time when I can listen to God
- C4:** Provides a school chapel service that helps you grow spiritually
- C5:** Provides a school chapel service which is challenging and thought provoking
- C6:** Provides a school chapel service with “next steps” – things I can do in response to the service

# Chapter 5

Goal: For you to get a better understanding of how spiritual relationships are catalytic to movement from...



# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against *Spiritual Relationships*

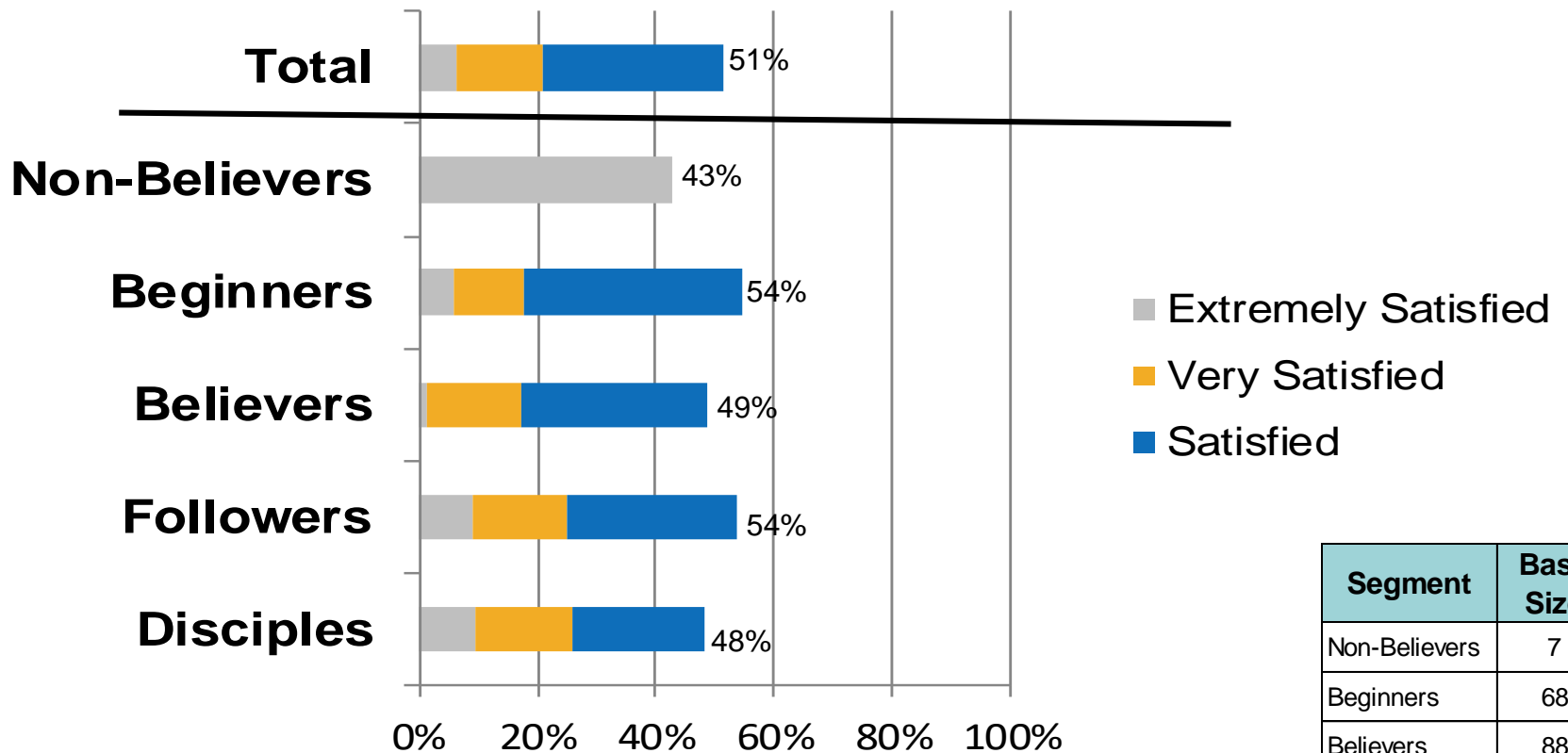


**Once a month or more**

Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31

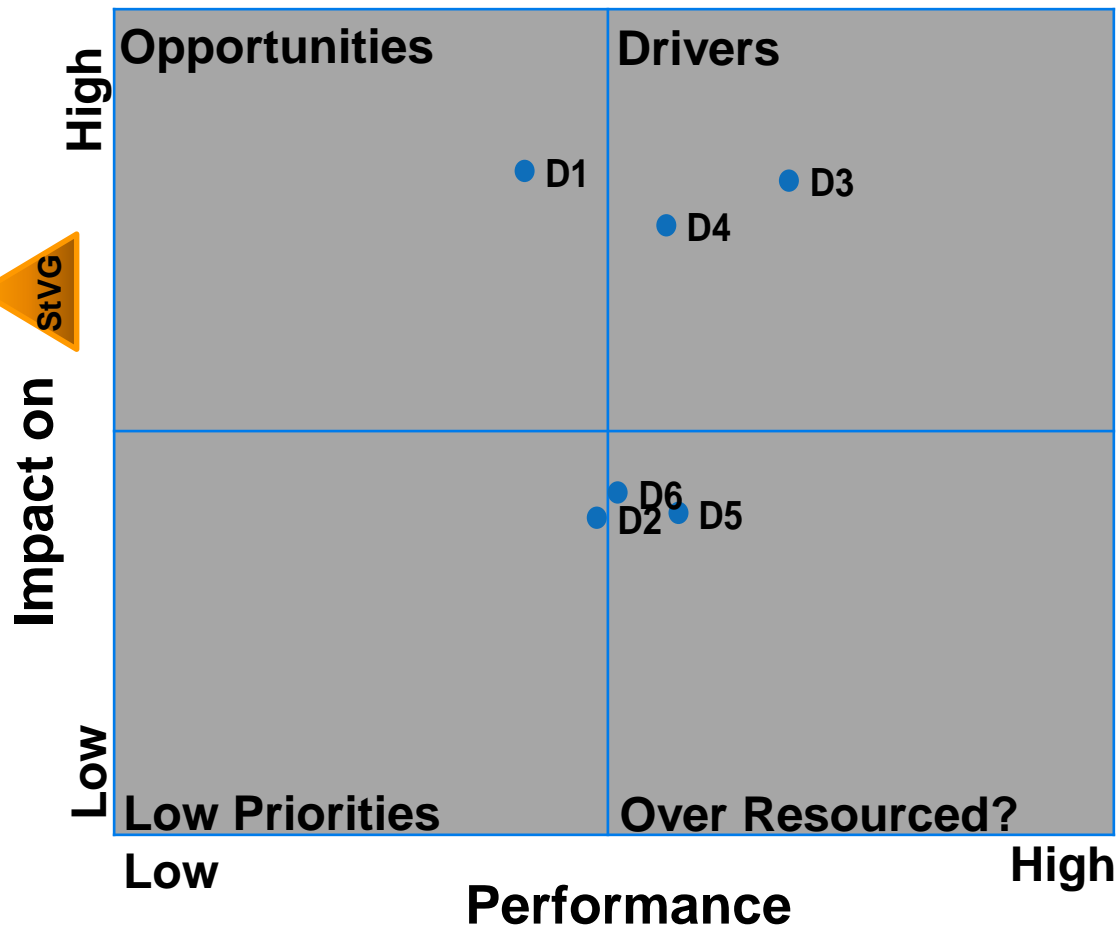
# Sample School ABC

## Overall Satisfaction with School's Role in Supporting Spiritual Relationships



Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31

# Sample School ABC Benefits Analysis Looking at Support of *Spiritual Relationships*



**D1:** Helps me in my time of emotional need

**D2:** Helps me develop relationships that encourage accountability

**D3:** Helps me feel like I belong

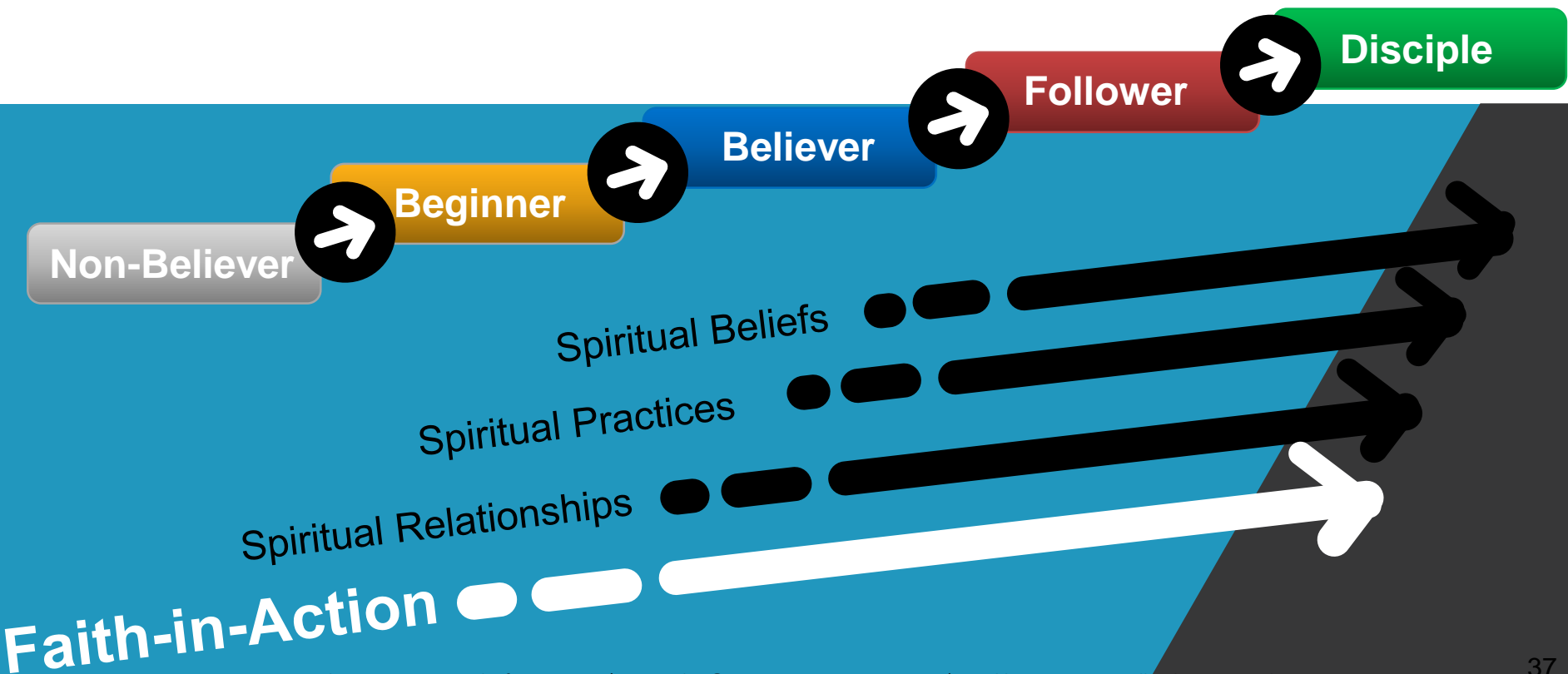
**D4:** Helps me develop relationships that provide a safe place to process the issues I am facing in my life

**D5:** Helps me develop relationships that provide guidance for better decision making in my life

**D6:** Helps me develop relationships that provide an opportunity for others to directly pray for me

# Chapter 6

Goal: For you to get a better understanding of how living out one's faith is catalytic to movement from...

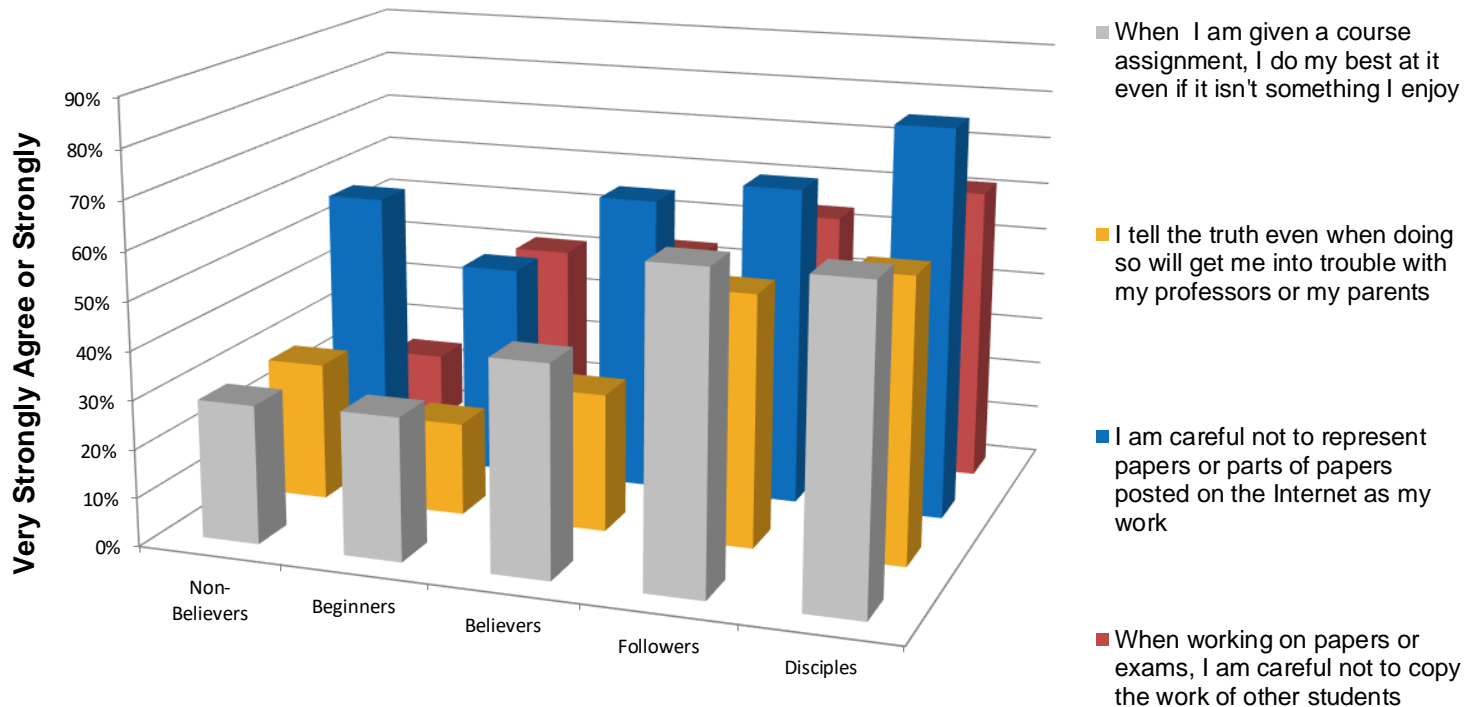


# Sample School ABC

## Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against Christian Life Profile Virtues

<b>Key CLP Virtues:</b> <i>(Very Strongly Agree or Strongly Agree)</i>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Non-Believers</b>	<b>Beginners</b>	<b>Believers</b>	<b>Followers</b>	<b>Disciples</b>
<b>Love</b>	42%	0%	28%	33%	55%	87%
<b>Joy</b>	24%	0%	25%	16%	29%	45%
<b>Peace</b>	22%	0%	16%	19%	30%	35%
<b>Patience</b>	30%	14%	31%	22%	32%	52%
<b>Kindness</b>	40%	0%	31%	39%	45%	68%
<b>Faithfulness</b>	31%	14%	29%	17%	39%	65%
<b>Gentleness</b>	40%	14%	32%	38%	45%	65%
<b>Self-Control</b>	17%	0%	18%	10%	25%	26%
<b>Hope</b>	42%	0%	25%	34%	59%	81%
<b>Humility</b>	40%	0%	32%	33%	48%	74%
Base:	250	7	68	88	56	31

# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against Attitudes Toward School Work and Teachers



Segment	Base Size
Non-Believers	7
Beginners	68
Believers	88
Followers	56
Disciples	31



# Sample School ABC Spiritual Continuum Profiled Against *Faith In Action*

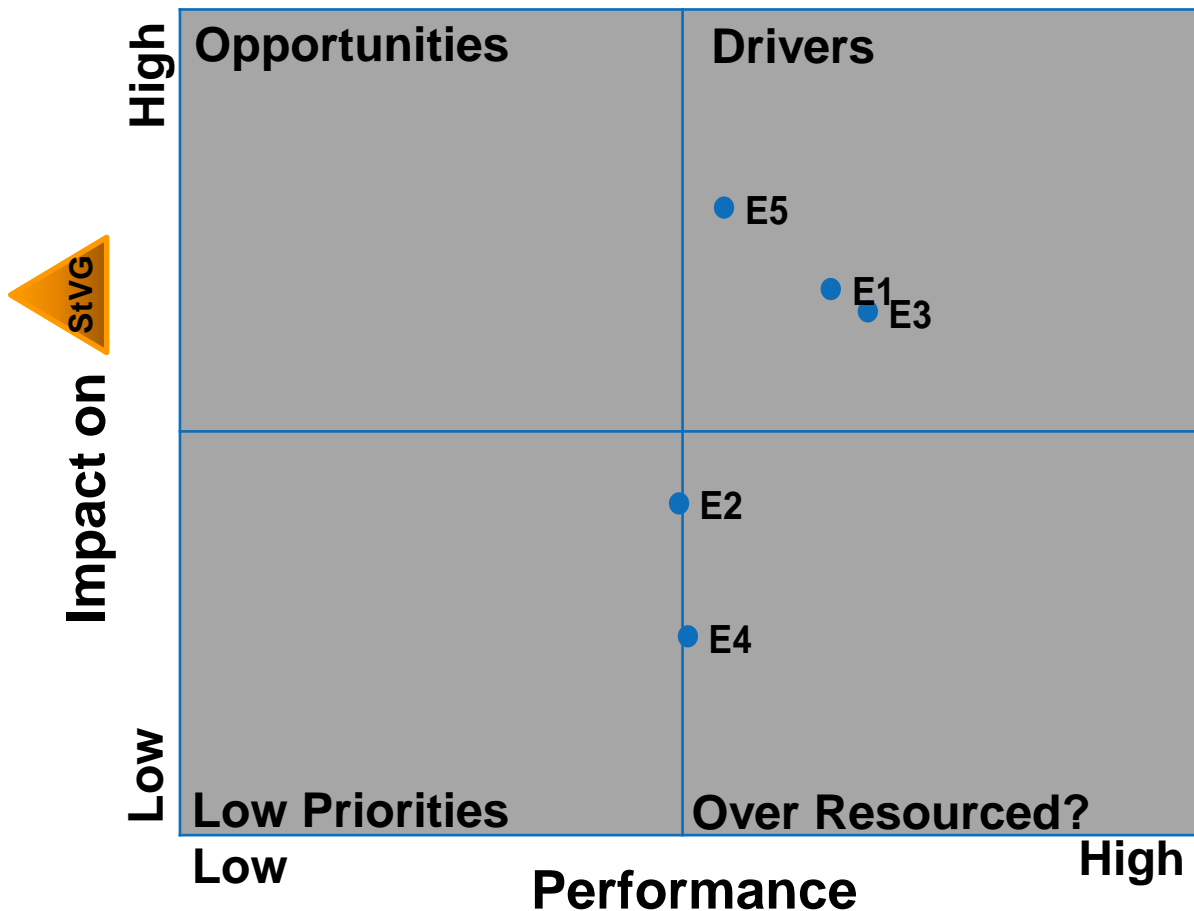
<b>Faith in Action: Caring and Serving Those in Need</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Non- Believers</b>	<b>Beginners</b>	<b>Believers</b>	<b>Followers</b>	<b>Disciples</b>
# Hours Serve @ School - 3+ per month	25%	14%	26%	22%	23%	39%
# Hours Serve on Own - 3+ per month	40%	29%	34%	38%	52%	45%
# Meaningful Spiritual Conversations - 3+ per year	36%	43%	26%	36%	36%	52%
Base:	250	7	68	88	56	31

# Sample School ABC

## Overall Satisfaction with School's Role in Support of Living Out One's Faith

Spiritual Continuum Segment		Overall Satisfaction with the School's Role in Helping You Serve Others <i>(Extremely Satisfied, Very Satisfied, or Satisfied)</i>	Overall Satisfaction with the School's Role in Helping You to Learn to Share Your Faith <i>(Extremely Satisfied, Very Satisfied, or Satisfied)</i>
Segment	Base Size		
<b>Total School Sample</b>	250	62%	53%
<b>Non-Believer</b>	7	57%	43%
<b>Beginner</b>	68	66%	50%
<b>Believer</b>	88	59%	55%
<b>Follower</b>	56	64%	61%
<b>Disciple</b>	31	55%	42%

# Sample School ABC Benefits Analysis Looking at Support of *Faith-in-Action*



**E1:** Provides opportunities for me to serve those in need

**E2:** Creates a serving culture that is so impactful that it is widely recognized by others

**E3:** Encourages me to seek serving opportunities outside those provided at school

**E4:** Gives me an opportunity to serve in an area I am passionate about

**E5:** Allows me to use and develop my spiritual gifts

# Chapter 7

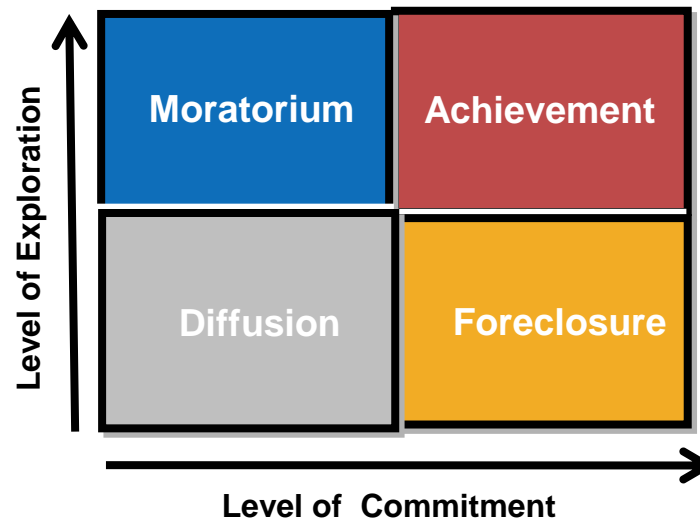
## Identity Formation

**Goal: For you to gain an understanding of the relationship between students' self-described stage of identity development and where they are spiritually.**

# Identity Formation

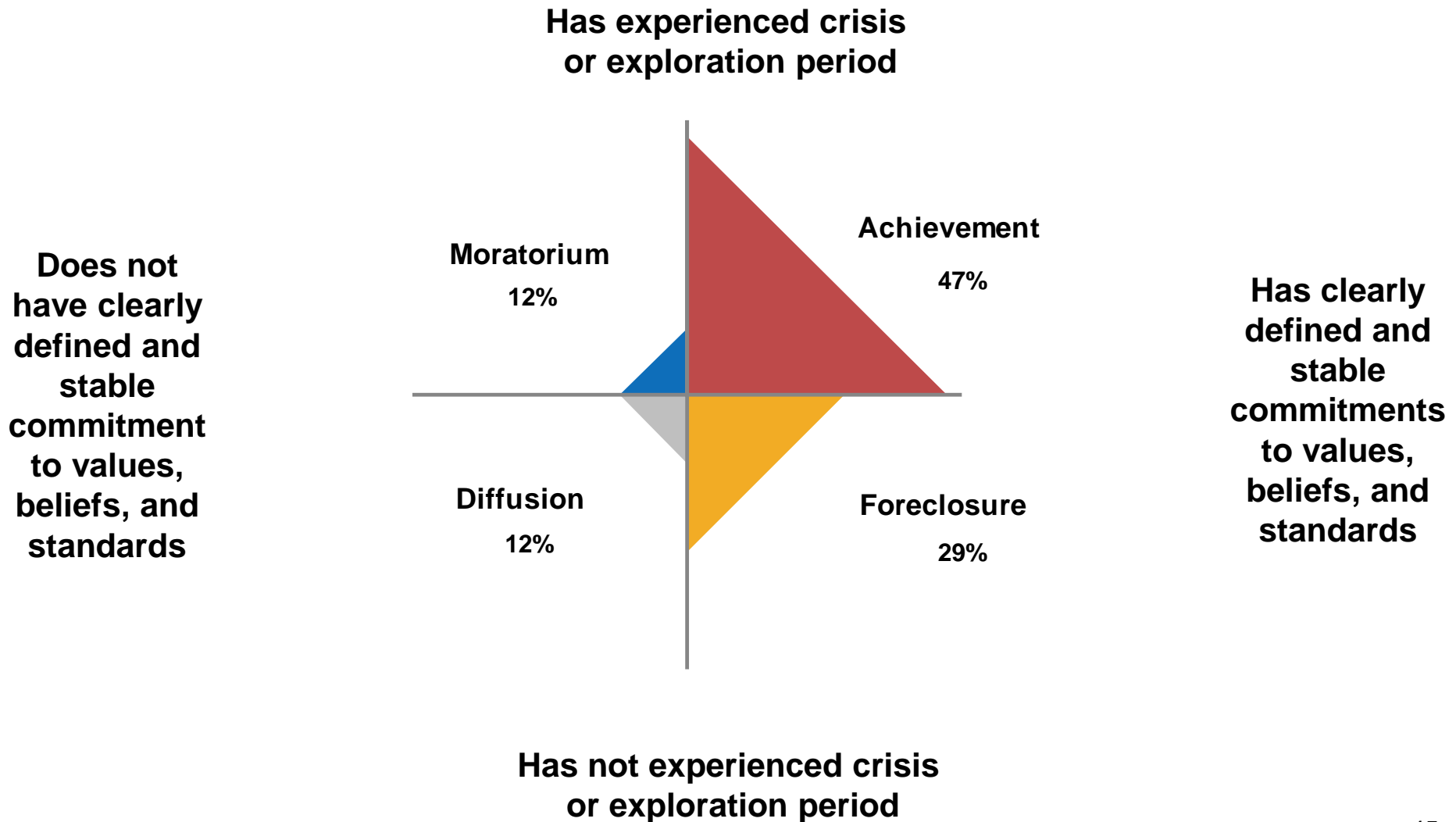
James Marcia's research in the area of identity development suggests some sort of moratorium (i.e., "stalling") might be an important stage for teenagers in moving from identity foreclosure to a more internalized sense of identity (i.e., moving away from my parents' faith to my own faith).

Beginning in the 1960's, psychologist James Marcia (based on Erik Erikson's work) developed four basic phases of identity development:



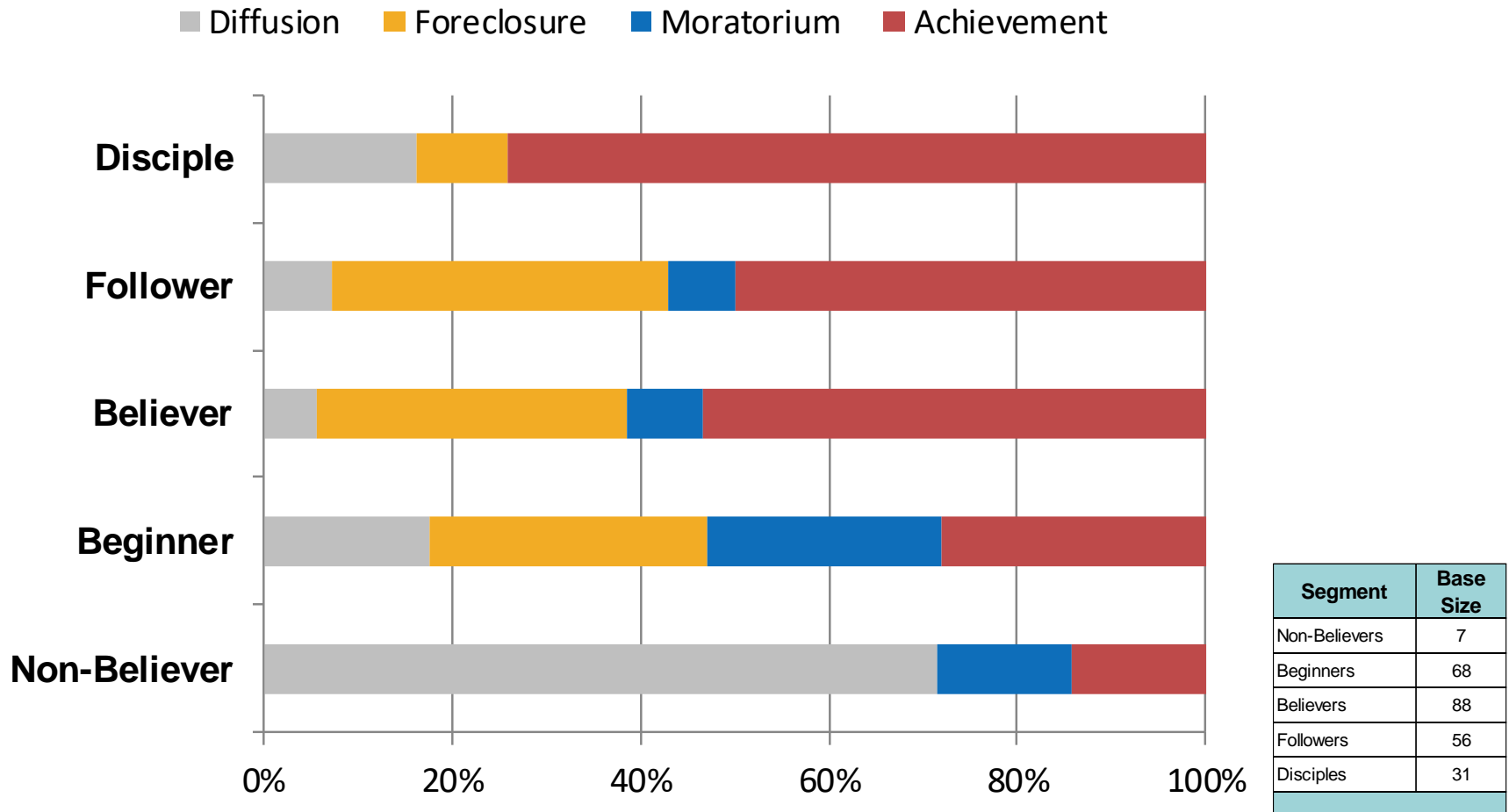
# Sample School ABC

## Spiritual Identity Development Profile



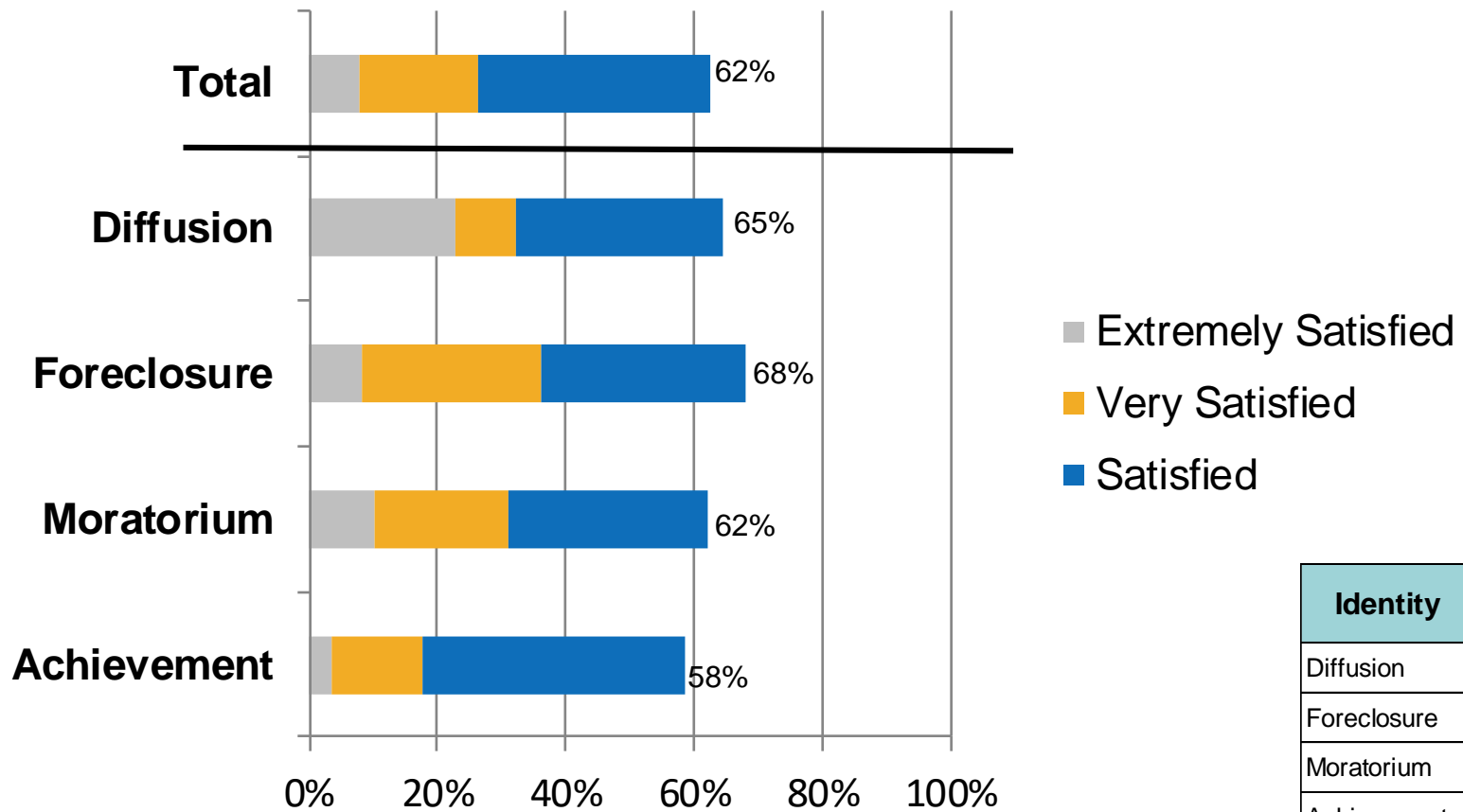
# Relationship Between the Spiritual Life Continuum and Spiritual Identity Development

## Sample School ABC



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## Overall Satisfaction with School's Role in Spiritual Growth by Identity Stage

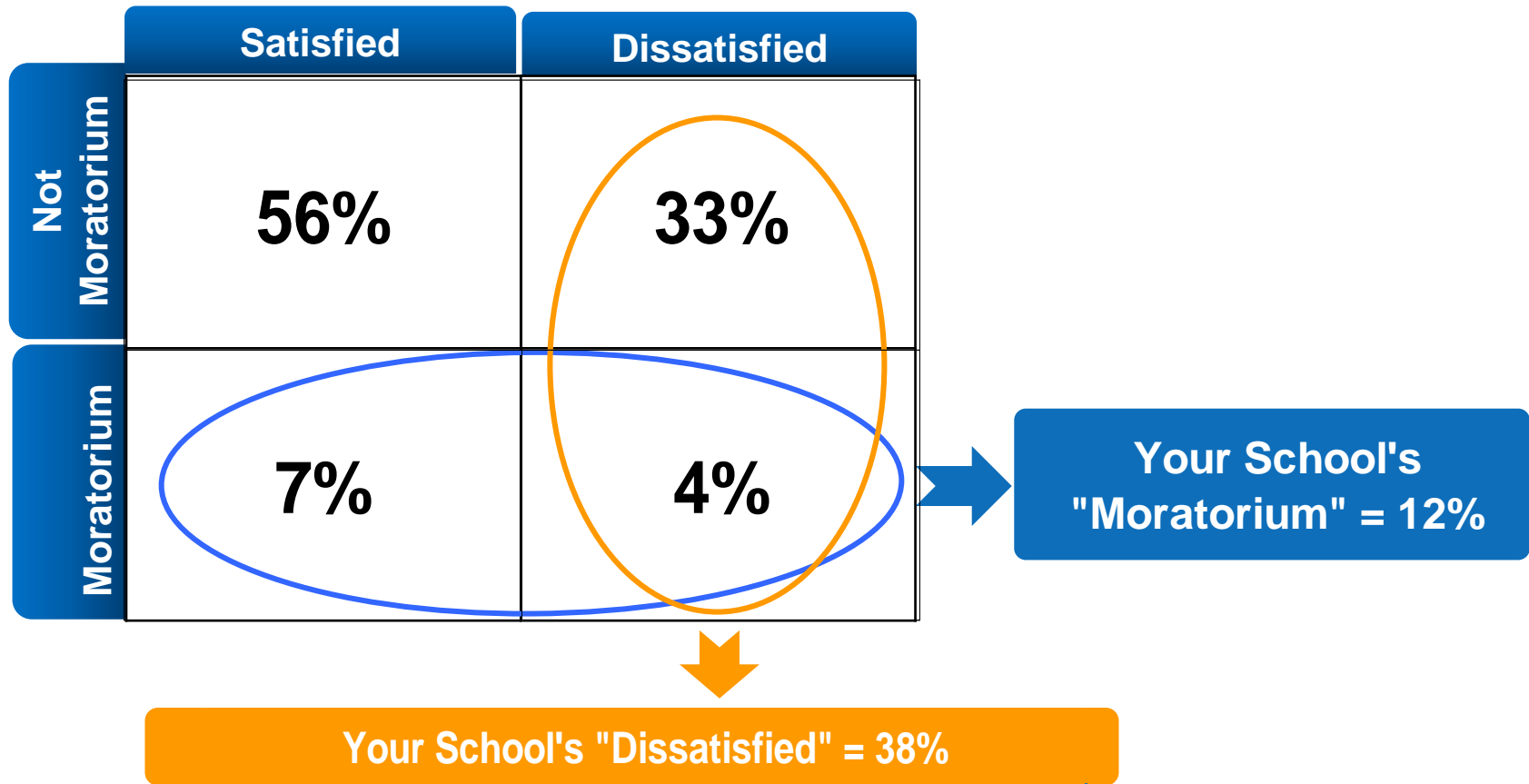


Identity	Base Size
Diffusion	31
Foreclosure	72
Moratorium	29
Achievement	118



# Sample School ABC

## Overlap Between "Moratorium" Development Stage and "Dissatisfied"



# Sample School ABC

## What “Moratorium/Dissatisfied” Students Say are the Top Five Priorities

Priority Ranking	Top Five School Priorities (Based on Level of Importance and Satisfaction)	Importance Score (Scale: 6 is high; 1 is low)	Satisfaction Score (Scale: 6 is high; 1 is low)	Priority Score *	
1	Helps process doubts	5.5	1.9	19.3	Highest Priority
2	Provides ideas to work through faith barriers	5.3	2.5	14.4	
3	Helps develop relationship w/ Christ	5.4	2.8	13.7	
4	Helps develop relationships to process life issues	5.1	2.5	13.0	
5	Encourages personal ownership of growth	5.4	3.0	12.7	

\* **Priority Score:** This score merges importance and satisfaction together to rank order your “Moratorium/Dissatisfied” student’s view of the school’s highest priorities for action. The higher the score, the greater the sense of urgency for change. (Priority Score Calculation: (Importance less Satisfaction) X Importance)

# Epilogue

## Overall Summary

Goal: For you to get a ONE number snapshot of the overall spiritual vitality of your school

# Sample School ABC

## School Spiritual Vitality Gauge

The **School Spiritual Vitality Gauge (ScVG)** was developed to provide a comprehensive measure of the school's role in a student's spiritual growth. The specific statements included in the ScVG were chosen from 28 possible aspects of a school's effort to aid students in their spiritual growth. The items selected were those found to be most discriminating between students in different stages of spiritual maturity in a discriminant function analysis.

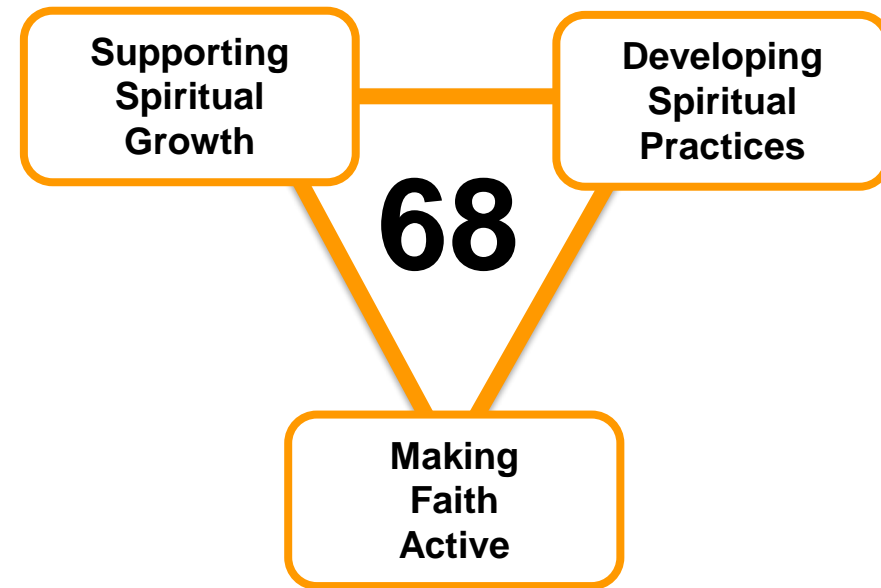
In essence, this single number score allows school administrators to assess the role the school plays in student spiritual formation.

Key questions:

**First: Supporting Spiritual Growth** To what extent does the school help students develop a relationship with Christ? Do the teachers/faculty model and consistently reinforce how to grow spiritually? Finally, does the school inspire students to make their faith an active part of their life?

**Next: Developing Spiritual Practices** Does the school help students understand the Bible in depth, develop a prayer life and provide a chapel service that helps students grow spiritually?

**Third: Making Faith Active** Does the school provide ways for students to make their faith come alive by allowing them to develop their spiritual gifts, provide them opportunities to serve in areas they are passionate about and encourage them to look outside the walls of the school to be God's hands and feet?



### How the ScVG is Calculated:

In calculating the ScVG, all nine items were given equal weight. The numerical scores for each student's responses to the nine items were summed and then divided by the total possible score for this set of items. The resulting decimal was converted to a percentage and averaged across all students to produce a score that represents the school's ScVG on a scale of 0 to 100.

# Sample School ABC Overall Summary REVEAL Spiritual Vitality Gauge



**SVG**



## How the SVG is Calculated:

In calculating the SVG, all nine items from the StVG and all nine items from the ScVG were given equal weight. The numerical scores for each student's responses to the eighteen items were summed and then divided by the total possible score for this set of items. The resulting decimal was converted to a percentage and averaged across all students to produce a score that represents the school's SVG on a scale of 0 to 100.



# Appendix

## Christian Life Profile

# Christian Life Profile

The *Christian Life Profile Assessment Tool* was created by Randy Frazee, senior minister of Oak Hills Community Church in San Antonio, Texas. Dozens of church leaders, theologians and others engaged in a rigorous process of biblical inquiry to find the core repeatable characteristics of a follower of Christ. The statements were then tested and refined in a number of forums, including *The Spiritual State of the Union*, an ongoing benchmark of the “spiritual temperature” in America, sponsored by The Gallup Organization. Among the experts contributing to the comprehensive effort were Dallas Willard, J.I. Packer, and Larry Crabb. The thoroughness of this approach, as well as the caliber of people engaged in the process, prompted us to adopt these statements for use in our research.

# CLP Beliefs

- **Trinity:** “I believe the God of the Bible is the one true God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit”
- **Salvation by Grace:** “I believe nothing I do or have done can earn my salvation”
- **Authority of the Bible:** “I believe the Bible has decisive authority over what I say and do”
- **Personal God:** “I believe God is actively involved in my life”
- **Identity in Christ:** “I exist to know, love and serve God”
- **Church:** “I believe the church is God’s primary way to accomplish his purposes on earth today”
- **Humanity:** “I believe we are created in the image of God and therefore have equal value, regardless of race, religion, or gender”
- **Compassion:** “God calls me to be involved in the lives of the poor and suffering”
- **Eternity:** “I believe people who deliberately reject Jesus Christ as Savior will not be granted eternal life”
- **Stewardship:** “I believe a Christian should live a sacrificial life that is not driven by pursuit of material things”



# CLP Disciplines

- **Worship:** “I thank God daily for who he is and what he is doing in my life”
- **Prayer:** “I seek to grow closer to God by listening to him in prayer”
- **Bible Study:** “I study the Bible to know God, the truth, and to find direction for my life”
- **Single-Mindedness:** “I desire Jesus to be first in my life”
- **Biblical Community:** “I allow other Christians to hold me accountable for my actions”
- **Spiritual Gifts:** “I know and use my spiritual gifts to fulfill God’s purposes”
- **Giving Away My Time:** “I give away my time to serve and help others in my community”
- **Giving Away My Money:** “I regularly give money to serve and help others”
- **Giving Away My Faith:** “I feel fully equipped to share my faith with people who do not attend church”
- **Giving Away My Life:** “I am willing to risk everything that is important in my life for Jesus Christ”

# CLP Virtues

- **Love:** “God’s grace enables me to forgive people who have hurt me”
- **Joy:** “I have inner contentment, even when things go wrong”
- **Peace:** “I am not anxious about my life as I have an inner peace from God
- **Patience:** “I keep my composure, even when people or circumstances irritate me”
- **Kindness:** “I am known as a person who speaks words of kindness to those in need of encouragement”
- **Faithfulness:** “I take unpopular stands when my faith dictates”
- **Gentleness:** “I am known as a person who is sensitive to the needs of others”
- **Self-Control:** “I do not ridicule, gossip or bad-mouth others”
- **Hope:** “When I am in a crisis, I find hope in my faith of God”
- **Humility:** “No task is too menial, if God calls me to it”