

FIRST THINGS FIRST - God First

Connection Points

Matthew 22:37

4 Steps to Connect with God in 2021 ·

- **Take responsibility for my spiritual growth.**

Psalms 139:23-24

Spiritual Health Check-Up (Evaluate yourself with 0 being the lowest and 10 being the highest)

1. My faith is involved in every aspect of my life.
2. Because of my faith, I have meaning and purpose in my life.
3. My faith gives me inner peace.
4. I am a person who is spiritually committed.
5. I spend time in worship every day.
6. Because of my faith, I forgive people who have hurt me deeply.
7. My faith has called me to develop my given gifts and talents.
8. I take unpopular stands to defend my faith.
9. I speak words of kindness to those in need of encouragement.
10. I talk about my faith with those who are not yet Christians.

TOTAL SCORE: (0-100) _____ ·

- **Fully engage with my church.** Ephesians 2:19 (TLB)

- **Set goals for my spiritual life.**

James 4:7-8

“Put first things first and get second things thrown in. But put second things first, and we lose both first and second things.” CS Lewis

Matthew 6:33

“If you set your goals ridiculously high and it’s a failure, you will still fail above everyone else.” James Cameron

My Top 3 Spiritual Goals...

- **Confess my sins to God.**

1 John 1:9

Connection Group Discussion Questions

- How would you describe your relationship with God? Are you walking with Him or distant from Him?
- Which of the Spiritual Health practices from the evaluation do you most need to improve? Which was your strongest?
- Read Matthew 22:37. How does getting closer to God take our time, attention, energy, and effort?
- Read Ephesians 2:19. What is the connection between growing closer to God and being involved in a local church and group?
- Read Matthew 6:33. What does Jesus say should be our first priority in life? Why is it so important?
- If you are walking with God, what steps can you take to continue in this? If you are distant from Him, how will you get closer?
- What could you do to love God with your mind? What could you do to love God with your heart?
- How can our group encourage you to grow and keep a closer connection with God?
- Pray that God would show you His goodness and grace this week as you develop closeness with Him. Look to Jesus to find the hope and love of God. Ask God to lead you in your desire for intimacy with Him.

Want to dig deeper? Check out these verses:

- Matthew 22:37-38
- Ephesians 3:18-19
- John 15:1-5; 15:15-16
- Deuteronomy 6:4-9