

***ACTS 2 CHURCH SURVEY:
Measuring Spirit-Empowered
Church Health Factors***

Dr. Mike Clarensau

mikeclarensau.com

mclarensau@sagu.edu

@mikeclarensau

mclarensau@gmail.com

The Challenge of Measuring Church Health

Size?

Impact?

Effectiveness?



Are “nickels and noses” a good way to measure church health?

“Why yes, our largest patients are the healthiest!”



**What if we
looked at what
we're doing
with the people
we have?**



Speaking of the doctor...

Blood pressure

Weight

Cholesterol

Cancer



*Determining health required
multiple measures.*

METRICS

Standards of measurement by which efficiency, performance, or progress can be assessed.

1. The AC

A Missional Effectiveness Ratio

A
Attendance

Conversions

**HOW MANY OF US DID IT TAKE TO WIN
SOMEONE TO CHRIST THIS YEAR?**



A “Healthy” AC?

The **Missional
Effectiveness** Ratio



5:1

*TO MAINTAIN HEALTH AND MISSIONAL FOCUS
1 CONVERSION FOR EVERY 5 IN ATTENDANCE
IS A HEALTHY TARGET*

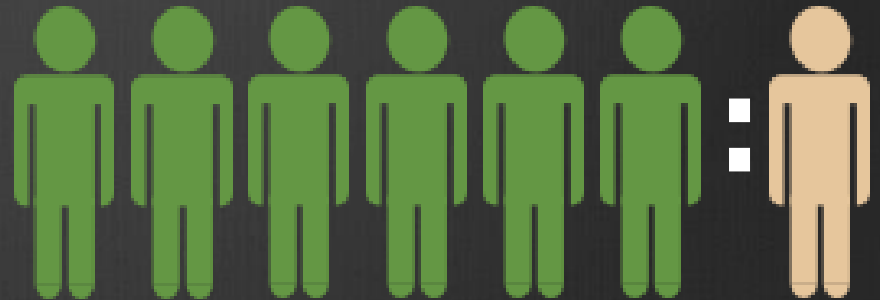
DID YOU KNOW?

Today it takes 4 AG worshippers to produce one reported conversion in a year. 30 years ago, it took 6 worshippers to produce a reported conversion.

2018



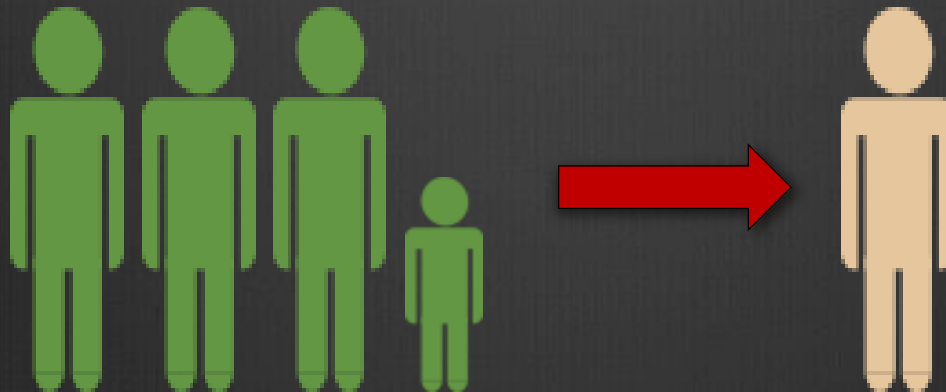
1988



Churches less than 200 (7:1)



Churches more than 200 (3½:1)



2. The CW

An **Assimilation** Ratio

Conversions

***Water
baptisms***

***DID WE KEEP THEM LONG ENOUGH TO
GET THEM INTO THE WATER?***



A “Healthy” CW?

An **Assimilation** Ratio

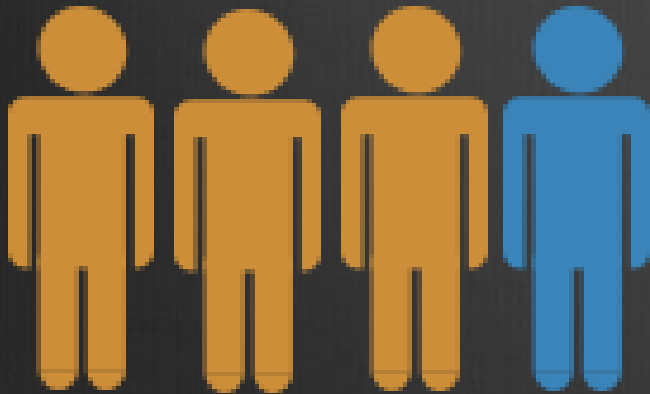


3 : 1

*NO LESS THAN 1 WATER BAPTISM FOR EVERY
3 REPORTED CONVERSIONS PROVIDES A
HEALTHY TARGET*



Churches under 200 baptize nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of their converts.



Churches more than 200 baptize less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of their converts.

3. The AW

The **Kingdom Growth** Ratio

Attendance

Water
baptisms

**HOW EFFECTIVELY DID WE ADD TO THE
KINGDOM THIS YEAR?**



A “Healthy” AW?

The **Kingdom Growth**
Ratio



15:1

*WE’LL NEED TO BAPTIZE 1 PERSON EACH
YEAR FOR EVERY 15 PEOPLE IN AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE, WE CAN STAY HEALTHY.*

4. The CS

The **Discipleship/Mobilization** Ratio

Conversions

Spirit baptisms

***ARE WE EFFECTIVELY DISCIPLING AND
MOBILIZING OUR PEOPLE?***

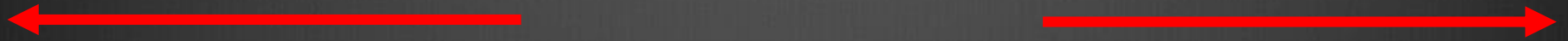


A "Healthy" CS?

The Discipleship/Mobilization Ratio

A MOBILIZATION PROBLEM

A DISCIPLESHIP PROBLEM



...2...3...4...5...

TO MAINTAIN HEALTH, THIS RATIO SHOULD BE BETWEEN 3:1 AND 4:1. THE CS CAN BE EITHER TOO HIGH OR TOO LOW.

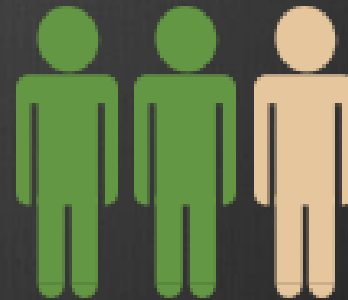
DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 6 reported converts are expected to one day receive Spirit baptism. 30 years ago, the ratio was 1 out of 3.

2018



1988

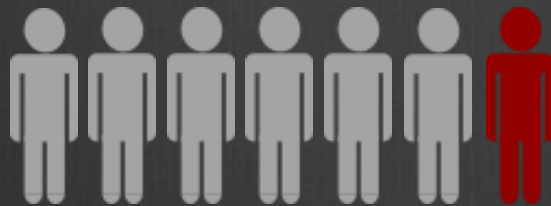


DID YOU KNOW?

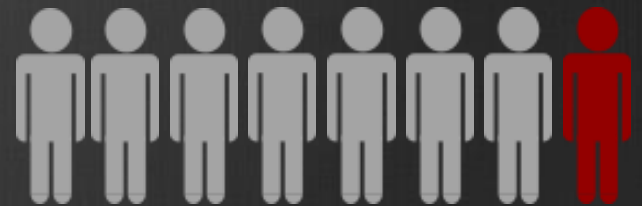
In our smaller churches, 1 in 4 reported converts are expected to one day receive Spirit baptism, compared with 1 in 6 in our larger churches and 1 in 7 in our largest churches.



Churches 0-199



Churches 200+



Churches 1,000+

5. The AS

The **Reproduction** Ratio

Attendance

Spirit
baptisms

**ARE WE PRODUCING PENTECOSTAL
LEADERS FOR OUR FUTURE?**



A “Healthy” AS?

The **Reproduction** Ratio

15:1 - 25:1

*THIS RATIO COMBINES A HEALTHY AC (5:1)
WITH A HEALTHY CS (BETWEEN 3:1 AND 4:1).*

6. The VA

The **Ministry Involvement** Ratio

Volunteers

Attendance

***ARE WE ENTERTAINING CONSUMERS
OR PRODUCING CHRIST FOLLOWERS?***



DID YOU KNOW?

In both small and large churches, approximately 3 in 10 church attenders volunteer to help in their local church's ministries.



Churches 1-49

Churches 50-99

Churches 100-199

Churches 200-399

Churches 400-699

Churches 700-999

Churches 1,000+

find more information on
“Metrics That Matter” and
“Rules of Thumb” at

mikeclarensau.com

In 2013, we began a journey...

The Acts 2 Church Survey

Our church helps new people feel welcomed. When new people visit our church, many people will greet them. Our church has an effective greeter ministry. New people find friends easily in our church. I have many non-Christian friends. I have many friends at church. I have close friendships at church. There is much joy and laughter at our church. I know how to deal with conflict in a biblical manner. Our leaders teach often about how to resolve conflicts. There is very little conflict in our church. I know there are issues of unresolved conflict between people in our church. We are excited when new people come to our church. I have made a new friend at church in the last three months. I think my friends would be welcomed at our church. I can depend on my friends at church. New people would describe our church as friendly. There is a peaceful, supportive atmosphere in our church. If I have a disagreement with someone, I will approach that person directly so we can solve it. I participate in a regular Bible study in my church. I am growing in my relationship with Christ. Our church has a plan for discipling new believers. Most people in our church participate in a small group. I study the Bible regularly on my own. We have many Bible study groups in our church. Our church effectively is effectively discipling its people. Our church does a good job of teaching the Bible to children. The Bible is truly the source of truth for our church. I have learned much about the Christian life from others in our church. The Bible study classes in our church are relevant to real life. People in our church are regularly encouraged to join a small group. I regularly spend time reflecting on my faith throughout the week. I have fasted (intentionally skipped meals) for spiritual growth in the past year. I have read the entire Bible. Our pastors sermons help me grow in my relationship with Christ. The people in our church know and understand our church's doctrine. Our church teaches people how to develop a daily devotional practice. My relationship with Christ has affected my views of right and wrong. The teenagers in our church seem very committed in their relationship with Christ.

I am currently serving in at least one of the ministry opportunities at my church. Our church provides training opportunities for volunteers. New people find it easy to get involved in the serving opportunities of our church. People enjoy serving in our church. Most of the people at our church are involved in serving in some way. I feel adequately trained for my current area of serving. I have participated in our church's ministry training. Our church looks for ways to actively serve our community. Most of my church friends are involved in some type of serving effort. My gifts and my area of serving are a good match. I fully understand what is required of me in the areas where I serve. I am excited to serve others. I know how God has gifted me to serve my local church. Our church trains its volunteers. I am actively looking for a way(s) to help at church. In our church, a few people seem to be doing most of the work. It's difficult to get involved in the serving ministries of our church. People are frequently encouraged to find a place to serve in our church. Our leaders demonstrate what it means to be a servant. The people of our church pray for non-Christians regularly. Our church looks for ways to reach out to people. People in our church share their faith regularly. Our church is strongly committed to world missions. Our church frequently sees people accept Christ. I often share my faith with nonbelievers. I feel prepared to share my faith with others. Our church leaders model personal evangelism for us. Our Sunday school classes/small groups reach out to people outside their group.

Our church provides adequate training for personal evangelism. I give money regularly to world missions efforts. Every believer should share their faith with others. New people frequently visit our church services. I have invited a non-Christian to church recently. I pray for missionaries regularly. Our church grows more by transferring members from other churches than by reaching non-Christians. I make an effort to meet new people at our church. I have met people from other cultures at our church. It's best if people from other cultures and ethnic backgrounds have their own church. I think a church should care for its members first, before trying to care for other people. I feel at home in our church. Prayer is an important part of our worship services. Obeying Jesus' teaching is important to me.

Our church leaders consistently emphasize the importance of prayer. Our church's prayer meetings are well-attended. I pray frequently during the week. I enjoy listening to the sermons in our worship services. I give 10% of my income to the ministry of my church. I always look forward to our worship services. The people in our church understand that giving of our finances is an act of worship. I truly worship God when I attend our worship services. The people in our church enthusiastically engage the singing portion of our worship services. People make life-changing decisions to follow God in our worship services. I learn a lot from our pastor's sermons. Our worship services relate well to real life. I like the musical style of our worship services. Disagreements about musical style are common in our church. Our worship services are among the best in our city or town. We often have new people attending our worship services. I worship God every day. Our pastor's sermons are clearly drawn from the teachings of the Bible. The Bible is the infallible Word of God given to us. The miracle stories in the Bible demonstrate God's supernatural intervention into the people's lives.

In the future, there will be a new heaven and a new earth. Miracles healing from sickness is possible through prayer. I believe that the supernatural events described in the Bible still occur today. I think Jesus created the Universe and the world. I believe that Jesus' resurrection provides the hope of eternal life. I believe that Jesus will physically return to earth again. At the point of the church will study to be from his in event may call the "rapture". One day, all those who have died will be physically resurrected to face judgment. Every person (except Jesus Christ) is a sinner and needs a Savior. God likely used a process of evolution to create the world. Genesis Chapter 1 shows how God created the world in 24-hour days. Homosexuality is a sin that one must repent of to have eternal life. I feel connected to the people who attend our church and study the Bible. Our small group or Bible study group helps care for the people in the group. I feel alone in my journey of following Christ. Our church leaders understand the challenges I face. My small group or Bible study group is important to my spiritual growth. I have invited an unchurched friend to attend my small group or Bible study group with me. I help others grow in their relationship with Christ. Someone in our church is helping me grow in my relationship with Christ. I am satisfied with my level of connection to other Christians. In our church, strong relationships are built in small groups or Bible study groups.

There are various ethnic groups within our church. Our church helps people with real problems. People's lives are genuinely changed by our church. Our church trusts in people who are not Christians. Poor people are valued and treated equally in our church. I have a close friendship with someone who is a high-achieving professional. Our church regularly demonstrates a love of our members. I have a close friendship with someone from a different culture. Our church does not seem to discriminate against anyone. When someone decides to accept Christ in our services, we meet with them personally. When someone decides to accept Christ in our services, we initiate a plan to help them learn more about their new life. People seem responsive to the messages they hear at our church. Our church helps those who visit our services to understand our worship practices. Our congregation is friendly to those who visit our worship services. I often meet new people when attending our worship services. I have many friends among those who attend our church. Our greeters and ushers do a great job helping people feel welcomed in our services. I invite my friends to attend our church services. We have a good way of welcoming new people in our worship services. Everyone feels welcomed in our worship services. Our worship services appeal to adults of all ages. Our facilities are attractive and well maintained. New people find it easy to understand what occurs in our services. Our leaders often explain our worship practices so everyone will understand them. We take time to greet one another during our worship services. Our pastor is an effective communicator. During our services, we pray for the needs of those attending. Serving is an important part of our church's discipleship effort. I feel that serving others helps me grow as a Christian. I believe every Christian should find a way to serve others. Our classes and groups participate in serving projects together. Our leaders show us what it means to serve the Lord with gladness. I am currently more involved in serving in our church than I was three years ago.

I people tend to get tired of their serving responsibilities at our church. Our church currently has more opportunities to serve than it did three years ago. Our church leaders make it known that they want everyone to be involved in serving. My life is different since I became involved in the serving ministries of our church. I have participated in our church's ministry training. You can't grow as a Christian unless you are serving in some way. The best way to show love is to serve the needs of others. My church has helped me learn the value of serving others. I am growing in the areas where God has gifted me. I am involved in helping someone else grow in their faith. People will grow in their faith if they attend our church. Someone in our church has taken a personal interest in my growth as a Christian. I think I could help someone else grow in their faith. I would be willing to be a small group leader. Someone could learn about following Christ by watching me. People would say that I'm growing in my love for others. I think Christians should act differently than others. There is a strong commitment level among the members of our church. Telling my own story of faith to those outside the church has helped me to grow spiritually. Sharing my own story of faith within the church has helped me to grow spiritually.

I tell my own story of faith more frequently now than I did three years ago. Our church serves our community in many ways. I am currently serving others in our church. Our church is making a difference in our community in many ways. Our church is meeting the needs of our community. I am committed to our church, we are a diastatic about serving our community. Our church helps many in our community. We are an outward-focused church. Our leaders are actively involved in our community. Our community benefits from the efforts of our church. I am currently serving others in our community. The members of our community know that we are a church that loves them. Our church has a good reputation in our community. When I am at church I don't feel like I'm just going through the motions of worship to God. I believe that the worship is a relationship toward God. God works in people's lives. I desire to know God through serving. The people in our church who serve do so because they love God. My friends would say that I show more love for God through serving others. I believe that serving others is an important way for every individual to show love for God. I am currently serving others. I feel joy in my ministry efforts. Our church helps those who visit our services others. In our church, people help out because they feel guilty if they don't. The people who help in our church's children's ministries seem to enjoy their efforts.

People are happy to help others in our church. Our church shows love to those who often feel rejected. Our church welcomes people of all ethnicities. In our church, I must not be concerned with what all of us are doing. Our church provides a loving environment for those who are struggling. Our church shows love to people who do not believe in Jesus. The people at our church sacrifice in order to help each other. People should know how to behave at church. People would say that our church helps them find hope. Relationships at our church seem to be mostly at a surface level. At our church, the Holy Spirit helps people from very different backgrounds connect in surprising ways. I want to grow in my relationship with Christ. There have been times when I have felt that the Holy Spirit is leading me. I feel like God helps me understand the Bible when I read it. I know and understand the primary teachings of our church. I see a big difference in the way I live from the non-Christian that I know. I intentionally listen for God's direction in my daily life. I try to live according to the teachings of Jesus. Our leaders show us how to be led by the Holy Spirit. God has helped me lead someone to faith in Him. There have been times when I feel God has spoken to me. The Holy Spirit helps me to live according to the Bible's teaching. God has done something supernatural for others through me. Before I serve others, I ask God to help me. God has blessed my efforts to serve others. When I serve others, I feel closer to God. When our church serves the community, people say they feel God's love. Our leaders seek God's direction in our efforts to serve others. We serve our community because we genuinely love those we serve. When I serve, I feel God's power expanding my efforts. In our church, people see serving others as an act of worshipping God. God's presence is evident in settings where we serve our community. Our church is making a real difference in our community. I believe the Holy Spirit empowers me to share my faith with others.

I have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking with other tongues. Our pastor talks a lot about the power of the Holy Spirit. I believe that God wants me to reach my friends and neighbors with the Gospel. God wants to fill people with the Holy Spirit today, just as He did in the book of Acts. God frequently does miracles today so people will know He is real. Our church reaches out to people in our community that are from different ethnic groups. I have seen proof of the power of the Holy Spirit in my own life. Our church provides many opportunities for people to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. I believe God's plan for my life is bigger than I can fully imagine. When I feel that God wants me to do something I do it without hesitation. God wants people to step beyond their "comfort zones". I can feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in our worship services. The people of our congregation are outwardly expressive in their worship of God. Demonstrations of the gifts of the Spirit are encouraged in our worship services. We pray for the sick in our worship services. Those who lead our worship services are truly led by God's Spirit. When he preaches, our pastor is clearly animated by the Holy Spirit. Our worship leaders are worship oriented rather than performance oriented. In our worship services, time is given to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. God answers our prayers in our worship services. The people of our church want to grow closer to God. Gifts of the Spirit are expressed in our worship services. In our church, you can sense people's hunger for God's presence. Our church follows the order of service closely. Our congregation worships God wholeheartedly. Our leaders encourage us to be expressive in our praise to God. During our church's prayer times, many people pray out loud at the same time. I feel like God speaks to me when I attend our worship services. Others say that they really sense God's presence in our worship services. Loving one another in the body of Christ is one of the most important commands for us to follow.

The Church should care for those that others neglect. People in a local church should share what they have to help meet the needs of others in the church. Everyone should be welcome to attend our church. We must love people, regardless of what they believe or do. Where possible, we should work together with churches of other Christian denominations. Obedience to Christ's commands is more important than any other form of worship. The primary task of the church is to make disciples. Being baptized in water as a demonstration of our faith is very important for Christian growth. Those who were baptized as infants should be baptized by their own choice in order to be obedient to the teachings of the Bible. Salvation is by faith alone, and not by works. If we are growing in our faith, we can reach a state of perfection at some point in our lives. Caring for the physical needs (food, shelter, clothing) of others is one of the church's main functions. Turning our attention to the needs of others ahead of our own. Singing the Gospel to non-believers is one of the church's primary functions. Jesus will lead us to serve others. Every individual has gifts and abilities that can be used to strengthen the church. In the Church, leaders must first be servants. I believe that those who don't put their faith in Christ will ultimately be sent to an eternal Hell. Those who accept Christ as Savior will go to Heaven after they die. Ultimately, it is our choice whether or not to engage a relationship with Jesus. Salvation only comes by repenting of your sins and putting faith in Jesus Christ. Only people who believe in Jesus Christ will go to Heaven. God has already predetermined who will go to Heaven, so it's more His choice than ours. Obedience is the greatest act of worshipping God. God is clearly the focus of our worship. The Holy Spirit guides us in worship. God desires that each of us worship Him. Mankind was created to know and worship God. God has commanded us to give 10% of our income as an offering to demonstrate our trust in Him. When one receives the baptism in the Holy Spirit, he/she will speak in other tongues. When someone speaks in tongues in a worship service, what they said should be interpreted so all can understand. God wants every believer to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. A person automatically receives the baptism in the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation.

The purpose of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is to empower us to be witnesses. Only those with the gift of speaking in tongues will actually do so. Our church is a healthy church. A genuine love for God is evident in our church. A genuine love for outsiders is evident in our church. A genuine love for one another is evident in our church. Our church's vision has been clearly communicated to the congregation.

We started with 305 possible questions

After input from multiple sources,
survey validation processes, and
testing with 40 pilot churches...

We emerged with
a 75-question
survey...

...and some fascinating results!

The single most critical factor to
Spirit-Empowered Church Health...

#1

**Serve/Go:
Community Engagement**

...an almost direct correlation

The remaining “Big Four”

#2 Church Conflict

#3 Worship

#4 Go: Spirit-Empowered

...nothing matters like these!

The 12

#5 Connect: Guest Welcoming

#6 Connect: Internal Relationships

#7 Connect: Small groups

#8 Connect: Social flexibility

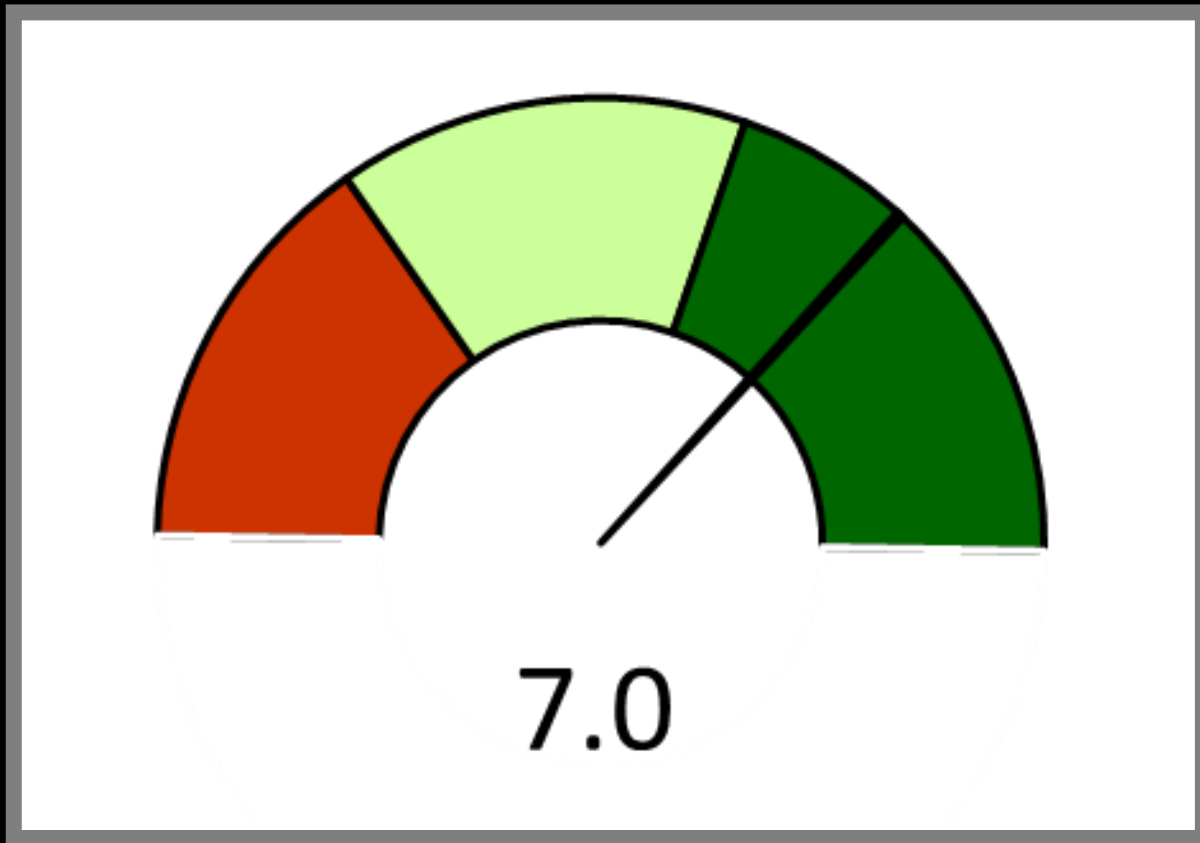
#9 Grow: Spiritual Vitality

#10 Serve: Personal Involvement

#11 Worship: Stewardship

#12 Spirit-Empowered

Stanine Ranking



While we're here...

Doctrine &
Church Health Metrics

***ACTS 2 CHURCH SURVEY:
Measuring Spirit-Empowered
Church Health Factors***

Dr. Mike Clarensau

mikeclarensau.com

mclarensau@sagu.edu

@mikeclarensau

mclarensau@gmail.com

