Welcome

Thank you for taking part in the Evangelical Alliance's online research panel.

These surveys are designed by the Evangelical Alliance, in collaboration with a group of other Christian organisations.

This quarter's survey is about personal discipleship and spiritual growth, our walk with God and the practices and disciplines which help us to become mature Christians.

All answers are anonymous and will only be used to compile statistics for our reports. And if you'd really rather not answer a particular question you can always leave it blank.

This questionnaire is a bit longer than the last one, but we estimate the survey shouldn't take longer than about 20-25 minutes. However, people vary, and our piloting suggests some of you will find this one especially thought-provoking. If you choose to write at length in the open-ended questions it might take quite a bit more time – but we are always especially grateful for the rich insights given by this type of response.

About you

Male

In every survey we need to ask everyone (both regular panel members and newcomers) a few short background questions so that we can easily break down the responses from different groups of people. We apologise if you have completed this for a previous survey. Unfortunately we cannot carry over your demographic data.

1. Your	gender:
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2. I	2. In which decade were you born?					
0	1920s	0	1960s			
0	1930s	0	1970s			
0	1940s	0	1980s			
0	1950s	0	1990s			

C Female

Discipleship Survey: November 2013 Are you a Christian? 3. Do you consider yourself to be a committed Christian (ie someone who believes in God, tries to follow Jesus, practises your faith, prays and attends church as you are able)? O Yes O No O Unsure 4. Do you consider yourself to be an evangelical Christian? O No ① Yes O Unsure 5. Are you a church leader or minister? Tick one or more boxes as appropriate. Yes, with lone (or senior) responsibility for one (or more) congregation(s) I have responsibility for leading a group, ministry or activity within the church (eg home group or children's work) Yes, as part of a team of leaders, elders or ministers I am married to an ordained minister or church leader I serve on a church council, PCC, Board of Trustees, or deacons' group No, I am not a recognised church leader

Where do you live?

6 In which region or notion of the HK do you normally reside?					
0. I	6. In which region or nation of the UK do you normally reside?				
0	London (within M25)				
0	South-east England outside London (Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire)				
0	East Anglia (Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)				
0	East Midlands (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire)				
0	West Midlands (Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Birmingham & West Midlands conurbation, Worcestershire)				
0	South-west England (Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall)				
0	North-west England (Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire)				
0	North-east England (Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear, Teesside)				
0	Yorkshire and the Humber				
0	Wales				
0	Scotland				
0	Northern Ireland				
0	Elsewhere or outside UK				

Your church background

7. How would you describe the church (congregation) you most often attend (or where you are in membership)?				
0	Anglican (Church of England, Church in Wales, Episcopalian)			
0	Baptist			
0	Charismatic – independent or non-denominational (eg Vineyard, Pioneer, Newfrontiers or local community church)			
0	Church of Scotland or other Presbyterian			
0	Free Church denomination (eg Methodist, URC, Salvation Army)			
0	Other evangelical church, denomination, assembly or fellowship			
0	Pentecostal (eg Elim, Assemblies of God, New Testament Church of God, Redeemed Christian Church of God)			
0	Uncommitted to any church at present			
С	Other (please specify)			

Discipleship Survey: November 2013				
Your early Christian experience				
8. When did you FIRST make a personal respo	nse to Jesus Christ?			
C As a child aged 12 or under C Between the ages of 26 and 45				
© Between the ages of 13 and 18	© Between the ages of 46 and 60			
C Between the ages of 19 and 25	C When I was 61 or older			
O It wasn't like that – please give some details:				
9. Since you came to faith as a Christian, have	you made a public commitment through any of the following?			
☐ Believer's Baptism	☐ Enrolment as a soldier in The Salvation Army			
☐ A confirmation service	□ None of these			
☐ A public recognition of becoming a member of a church				
Other (please specify)				

Discipleship Survey: November 2013			
The year you made a public commitment			
10. In which year did that (first) public act of commitment take place?			

Before you became a Christian

11. When you first made a response to Jesus or were converted, which of the following describes your circumstances? Tick all that apply

\square I had been brought up in a committed Christian family and within the life of a church	☐ I had no time for God or the Church		
\square I had been brought up as a Christian but had rejected the faith, drifted far away or been a	☐ I was a convinced atheist		
rodigal" -	☐ I was an agnostic		
☐ I had a secure home and loving family life	\square I was familiar with the Bible and what it meant to be a Christian but just hadn't made a personal		
☐ I had little or no experience of church	commitment		
☐ I was religious but not a Christian	I was from a non-Christian faith background (e.g. Muslim, Hindu, Jewish, Sikh)		
☐ My life was in a mess			
Please specify or give further details			

First steps as a disciple

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12. When you were a seeker or a new or young Christian did you take part in any of the following programmes?						
☐ Alpha course	\square A one-to-one mentoring scheme or personal discipling from a mature Christian					
☐ Christianity Explored course ☐ Confirmation or membership classes	A structured course of lectures, talks, sermons, Bible school or teaching sessions aimed at new Christians					
Baptism preparation class Other structured group course	 □ A self-study course such as a correspondence course, study books or guides or online learning □ None of the above 					
Other (please specify)						

Learning to live as a Christian disciple

13. How successful do you think your experience of being taught or discipled about the Christian life has been in the following respects?

	Very successful	Somewhat successfu	Not very successful	Not at all successful
Helping me to understand the basics of Christian belief	O	O	0	0
Helping me to behave well and develop a lifestyle appropriate for a Christian	O	O	O	O
Giving me enthusiasm for reading and studying the Bible	0	0	0	0
Shaping good habits and disciplines in my prayer life	0	0	0	0
Confirming or increasing my faith in God	0	0	0	0
Equipping me for witnessing and sharing my faith with others	0	0	0	0
Encouraging me to use my talents and gifts in the life of the church	0	0	0	0
Encouraging me to use my talents and gifts in work and service in the wider community	0	0	O	0
Inspiring me to live for Christ in the spheres of work and public life	0	0	0	0
Equipping me to live as a Christian in my relationships and family life	0	0	0	0

r Christian journey
Which of the following statements best describes the course of your Christian life journey?
There have been a number of ups and downs, periods of struggle or doubt but overall I believe I am growing spiritually.
It's been a relatively smooth path of learning and growth towards becoming a mature Christian with a strong, clearly-understood faith.
I've been growing and learning as a Christian, though there are a number of things which don't seem as certain or important as when I was a new Christian.
There has been at least one period of serious backsliding or falling away but at the moment I am going on with God.
I've been a Christian for a long time but at the moment I fear I'm stagnating, in a rut, or 'losing my first love'.
I've been a Christian but have lost my way and am at the point of giving up.
(please specify)

Crisis points in your life
15. Since you became a disciple of Jesus have there been any major periods of difficulty, crisis or trial that have tested your faith?
C Yes – the crisis/trial really shook my faith but on the whole I have emerged as a stronger Christian
C Yes – but my faith remained secure or was strengthened
C Yes – and the crisis/trial shook me and my faith is fragile or full of doubts as a result
O No – I can't recall any major crisis
If "Yes" and you are happy to do so, tell us briefly what happened:

Followers of Jesus in the New Testament

16. Which of these followers of Jesus in the New Testament do you most closely identify with?

Ple	ase tick up to three.		
	Mary Magdalene from whom demons had come out and who went to Jesus's tomb to anoint him		The un-noticed woman who touched Jesus's garment and was healed
	Doubting Thomas – who needed proof Jesus was alive		Simon the Zealot – the freedom-fighter, politically committed for justice
	Matthew/Levi – the tax collector who gave up a profitable if unethical business to follow Jesus		John – the close friend ("the disciple whom Jesus loved")
	Judas Iscariot – who betrayed Jesus		Paul – the evangelist, thinker and theologian
	The Samaritan woman at the well – an outsider who met Jesus and started telling the whole		Simon Peter – the bold leader who always spoke up but often let Jesus down
com	community about him		Mary (sister of Martha) who sat at the feet of Jesus and listened
	Martha – busy with the tasks of everyday life		
	Nicodemus – the secret follower who came to Jesus at night		

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Who has inspired you?				
17. Among the Christian people you have known personally, who are probably not well known or famous, who has inspired and influenced you most in your Christian journey?				
Please tick up to four.				
☐ My mother	A Sunday school teacher or children's club leader			
☐ My father	A Christian youth worker or leader			
☐ My brother or sister	A student Christian worker or university chaplain			
☐ A grandparent	Another Christian worker, missionary or evangelist			
☐ My spouse/partner	A friend who was at school with me			
☐ Another relative	A friend who I made when I was a student			
A teacher	A friend who I made when I was an adult			
A church leader or minister	A work colleague or boss			
Other (please specify)				

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Current influences	
18. Which recent Christian authors, speakers or leaders have influenced you most?	
Please name up to six, putting each on a separate line in the box.	

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Christian heroes and saints	
19. Of all the famous Christians in history (including people alive today but of saints, martyrs, heroes, leaders or thinkers who have inspired and influence	
Please list up to six, putting each on a separate line in the box.	

Support from other Christians

20. Over the last year or two, how helpful to your growth as a Christian have been the following kinds of interaction with other people?

	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	I've done this but it hasn't helped much	I've had the opportunity but not made use of it	Not possible in my situation
Regular attendance at a church home group or cell group	0	0	0	0	0
Regular attendance at church services	O	O	O	0	0
Regular sharing in prayer, Bible reading or devotions with other members of my family or household	0	0	0	0	0
Regular sessions with a personal mentor, spiritual director or 'soul friend'	O	O	O	0	0
Regular sharing in prayer, Bible reading or devotions with my spouse/partner	0	0	0	0	0
Regular meetings of a small mutually accountable group such as a prayer triplet or group of Christian friends	\odot	0	0	0	0
Regular meetings of a workplace-based Christian group	0	0	0	0	0
Hearing others' testimony	O	0	0	0	0
Regular participation in a mission or outreach team or Christian social action project	0	0	0	0	0
Training sessions or courses to extend my knowledge or equip me for discipleship, mission or Christian service	O	0	0	0	0
Please tell us about other groups or relationships which have helped you grow.					
<u>^</u>					

Your current experience

21. To what extent do you agree or disagree that...?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
My church succeeds in helping people become transformed so they are more like Jesus Christ.	0	0	0	0	0
Every Christian needs to spend time alone with God on a daily basis – without that their faith will suffer.	O	0	0	0	0
My church does very well at discipling new Christians.	O	0	0	0	0
I can see God at work in my life on a daily basis.	O	0	O	0	0
When I try to spend time alone with God I am easily distracted.	O	0	0	0	0
I find it difficult to find time on a regular disciplined basis to read the Bible and pray.	O	0	O	0	0
The teaching, sermons or talks at my church have helped me grow and mature as a Christian.	O	0	0	0	0
After church most weeks I spend some time reflecting on or thinking about what the speakers/preachers have said.	O	0	O	0	0
It is important for every Christian to read or study the Bible on a daily basis.	O	0	0	0	0
I can see God at work over the longer-term in my life.	O	0	O	0	0
Most Christians today are not very disciplined in their spiritual lives and walk with God.	O	0	0	0	0
I can see many examples of God answering my prayers over the last year or so.	O	0	O	0	0
I am encouraged by seeing evidence of God working in the lives of other people around me.	O	0	0	0	0
I have seen a big change for the better in my life since I started following Jesus.	0	0	0	0	0
Please tell us about any changes for the better in your life since you started following Jesus.					
	<u> </u>				

Personal Bible Reading

22. How often do you personally (ie outside the context of church activities) read, study, listen to or otherwise engage witl	h the
Bible?	

טוט	IG:		
0	At least once every day	0	Less often than once a week but at least once a month
0	Several times each week	0	Less than once a month
0	Once each week		
23.	How much time do you typically spend during each session that	at y	ou read, study and reflect on the Bible?
0	Less than 10 minutes	0	Between 30 minutes and an hour
0	Between 10 and 20 minutes	0	More than an hour
0	Between 20 and 30 minutes	0	N/A – I don't do any regular Bible reading or study

Aids to Bible study

24. Do you make use of any of the following items to help you with your Bible-reading, study and reflection?

Tic	k all that apply	
	Printed Bible study notes	
	A Bible-reading plan	
	Bible commentaries or other books	
	A Bible app on your phone or other mobile device	
	A Bible website	
If yo	u use any such materials, please specify which:	
	<u> </u>	
	▼	

Ш	Emails from a Bible study organisation
	Podcasts or other audio recordings from a Bible study organisation
	DVDs or other video resources
	None of these, just an open Bible

Problems with the Bible

25. When you read or engage with the Bible to what extent is it the case that...?

	This happens sometimes			
	This happens often	or for some Bible	This only happens rarely	This never happens
		passages		
find it hard to understand what the Bible says	0	O	0	O
find it hard to see how it is relevant to my life today	O	O	0	0
find it hard to accept that the Bible is reliable and true	O	О	O	0
find it hard to live up to the commandments and challenges found in the Bible	O	O	0	0
find it hard to understand how God could order or allow some of the things recorded in the Bible	0	0	0	0
her problems you may have with the Bible (please specify)				
	_			
	-			

Discipleship Survey: November 2013 Personal disciplines of prayer 26. Do you set aside specific regular times for personal prayer, contemplation or being alone with God? C Yes – two or more substantial periods every day C Yes – a regular session but less than weekly C Yes – one substantial period of time every day O I don't have a fixed pattern but just pray when the chance or need arises C Yes – I try to find at least a few minutes every day O I struggle to find the time or will to pray very much at all C Yes – a regular session at least once a week Other pattern (please specify) 27. Can you estimate how much time you set aside for private prayer each week? O None at all O Between one and three hours Less than 30 minutes (that's less than about 5 minutes a day) Between three and seven hours C Between 30 minutes and an hour Over seven hours

Aids to prayer

28. Do you find any of the following helpful as a way of strengther	ning your personal devotional and prayer life?
☐ Having a special place in your home where you regularly pray	☐ Meditating on a verse of scripture
☐ A special place outside in the open air	Prayer letters, diaries or calendars from a church or Christian organisation
Praying 'on the move' eg walking, or travelling by car, train or bus	☐ Your own lists of people to pray for
Going into a church building, or public prayer room	☐ Contemplating an object, picture, statue or other work of art
\square Listening to or singing along to (Christian) music before or while you pray	☐ Using written prayers or set liturgies
Particular bodily postures (eg kneeling)	☐ None of the above
☐ Lighting a candle	
Other (please specify)	

Discipleship Survey: November 2013				
Other helps to the spiritual life				
29. Have you over the last few years used any of the following practices to help you in your personal walk with God? Tick all that apply				
☐ Keeping a journal ☐ Regularly taking communion (Eucharist, Lord's Supper)				
☐ Fasting ☐ Attending conventions, festivals or other large gatherings of Christians				
☐ Going on retreats ☐ None of the above				
Pilgrimages or visits to holy sites or "thin places"				
Other (please specify)				
Going on retreats None of the above Pilgrimages or visits to holy sites or "thin places"				

The themes of your prayer

30. When you pray, how frequently do you do the following?

	Always or almost always	Often	Sometimes	Not very often	Rarely or neve
Ask for people to come to faith in Christ	O	0	0	0	0
Ask God to bless your local community	O	\circ	0	0	0
Ask God to bless the work of your church	0	0	0	0	0
Try to listen to what God is saying	O	0	0	O	0
Ask God to help or heal other people you know	O	0	0	0	0
Ask God to work in situations overseas (eg in missions, through aid and development groups, for the persecuted Church)	O	\circ	0	\circ	\circ
Ask for healing of your own illnesses	O	0	0	0	0
Confess and seek forgiveness for your sins	O	\circ	\circ	0	0
Ask for help to overcome temptation	O	0	0	0	0
Ask God to bless your family	O	\circ	0	\circ	\circ
Other ways you often pray (please specify)					

The purpose of prayer

31. Which of the following do you see as the most important purposes of prayer?

	(tick only one in this column)	Very important	Important	Not important
To ask God to provide for material needs	O	О	0	0
To bring about God's kingdom on earth	O	0	\circ	0
To bring human wills into line with God's will	O	O	0	0
To listen to what God is saying	O	0	\circ	0
To help overcome temptation	O	O	0	0
To win people for Christ	O	O	0	0
To offer worship and thanksgiving to God	O	O	0	0
To persuade God to work miracles	O	O	0	0
To overcome and be protected from the powers of evil	O	O	0	0
To confess and seek forgiveness for your sins	O	O	0	0
To bring you into a closer relationship with God	O	O	0	0
Other (please specify)				
	À			

Temptations and struggles

In the following four pages we would like to ask some quite personal questions about your current spiritual health. Please remember your answers are confidential and anonymous and will only be used to produce statistics.

If you feel uncomfortable about answering any of these questions please feel free to miss them out.

32. Thinking about some of the temptations and struggles that people commonly face, how would you say you are doing these days in the following areas?

	I'm often guilty of this	I still struggle with this but usually overcome the temptation	I used to have a problem with this but am doing much better these days	This has rarely or never been temptation for me
Gambling	O	O	0	0
Self-centredness	O	C	C	O
Unforgiveness	0	O	O	O
Addiction to alcohol, tobacco or drugs	0	O	O	O
Hypocrisy	0	O	O	O
Lying or dishonesty	0	O	O	O
Despair, worry or anxiety	0	O	O	O
Judgemental attitudes	0	O	O	O
Looking at pornography	0	O	O	O
Being one person in church and a different one at work	O	O	O	O
Ignoring global exploitation or injustice (eg sweatshops, human trafficking)	0	O	O	O
Other temptations that affect you (please specify)				
		Y		

Seven Deadly Sins

33. How would you say you are doing these days in overcoming the "Seven Deadly Sins"?

We'd like to know which of them are for you greater struggles than others, so please rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 = "I fail constantly" and 10 = "I never commit this".

Please try not give them all the same score.

	1 – I fail constantly	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 - I never commit this
Envy (jealousy or covetousness)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\odot
Sloth (laziness)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\circ
Wrath (losing your temper)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gluttony (eating too much)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pride (thinking too highly of yourself)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lust (inappropriate sexual desires)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greed (wanting money or material goods)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Your current spiritual state/growth

34. Please try, as honestly as you can, to assess the current state of your faith and discipleship.

Please rate each item on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 = "Doing very badly" and 10 = "Doing very well" (the best one could hope for in this life).

	1 – Doing very badly	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 – Doing very well
Serving Jesus by practical caring action	0	\odot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Growing spiritually as Christian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0
Knowing you are in the place and role in life where God wants you to be	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Living, acting and reacting like Jesus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confidently sharing the gospel with unbelievers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feeling close to Jesus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Knowing you are loved, forgiven and accepted as a child of God	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trusting in God and His promises and purposes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\circ

Fruits of the spirit

35. Please try, as realistically as you can, to assess the evidence of the fruits of the Spirit (listed in Galatians 5:22) in your life.

Please rate yourself for each quality on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 = "No sign at all in my life" and 10 = "Completely present in my life".

	1 – No sign at all in my life	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 – Completely present in my life
Love	O	0	0	0	0	0	0	O	0	0
Joy	O	0	\circ	0	\circ	\circ	\circ	0	0	0
Peace	O	0	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0	0
Patience	O	0	0	0	0	0	\circ	\circ	0	0
Kindness	O	0	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0	0
Goodness	O	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0	0	0
Faithfulness	O	0	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0	0
Humility	O	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0	0	0
Self-control	O	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	O

Discipleship Survey: November 2013	
Any other comments	
36. Please feel free to tell us briefly in your own words about your ex	perience as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
	Y
37. If you would like to give us feedback or have questions or sugge	

Discipleship Survey: N	lovember 2013						
Have you read the latest report?							
Finally, we would like to know if yo	ou have seen or heard about our most recent report.						
38. Have you read our 'Wo	rking Faithfully?' report, published in Octobe	er 2013?					
C Yes	O No	C Can't recall					
Any comments about the report 39. Have you in the last fev	w months:						
		Yes	No	Can't remember			
Heard a church leader refer to our 'Working	ng Faithfully?' report, published in October 2013?	О	0	O			
Read, seen or heard any media coverage	e about that report?		0				

Discipleship Survey: November 2013
Please confirm your contact details
40. We would like to tell you about the findings of this survey and invite you to take part in future research.
So, to make sure we can reach you, please enter your preferred email address below.
This is especially important if you are answering our surveys for the first time or acccessed the survey via a web link rather than by responding to an email invitation or reminder that we sent you.
It is also important if you have recently changed your email address.

Discipleship Survey: November 2013
You have finished.
Thank you for completing this survey.
For more details about the 21st Century Evangelicals research project and to read our previous reports, please visit www.eauk.org/snapshot
Please tell your Christian friends and people at your church about our surveys and encourage them to go to the website and take part.