



In November of 2015, the VRBC staff initiated an intentional time of listening to our members' thoughts regarding two key components of our Strategy: WORSHIP (How we worship God as a church: Worship services) and GROW (How we help people grow to become more like Jesus: ABFs/Small Groups/etc.). Through five "Listening Sessions" and an online survey, we solicited feedback and ideas from the church in these two crucial areas, and the results have been very helpful.

Approximately 130 people from a broad range of ages and tenures with VRBC participated in the survey. A similar number of people participated in the Listening Sessions, although the group was slightly less diverse (tenures tended to be longer, age range wasn't as broad). In the Listening Sessions, we had extremely productive conversations about the GROW and WORSHIP components of our strategy. In the survey, people shared important perspectives about how we're doing in these areas and how we might improve. As you might expect, there was a broad range of perspectives represented in both settings. But, several key themes did emerge:

Highlights

- In both the Listening Sessions and the survey, participants identified a number of areas that are working well. It is clear that God is continuing to bless us with many high-impact ministries.
- At the same time, people in both settings also identified a number of opportunities for growth. While we can certainly improve in both areas, "GROW" received more conversation than "WORSHIP" in all of the Listening Sessions. This disparity was consistent with the survey, where the WORSHIP area was rated as effective by 79% of respondents, compared to only 65% for the GROW area.
- Our "Assimilation process" for the GROW area (how people get connected with ABFs/Small Groups) received a great deal of conversation. There was broad consensus that this is a significant area of opportunity for improvement.
- There was also quite a bit of discussion about our "GROW" options (ABFs/Small groups). While they are working well for some, there is a sense that they aren't reaching as many people as we'd like, and could potentially benefit from a greater diversity of offerings.

Next Steps

- We will discuss the results of the Survey and the Listening Sessions in greater detail at the Leaders Gathering on Wednesday, January 6th at 6:30pm in the Student Auditorium. All are welcome!
- The Staff and Church Council are continuing to meet in the coming weeks to discuss ways we can implement some of the good ideas flowing out of these conversations. We hope to roll out some positive changes to our GROW ministry later this Spring.

Thank you to those of you who took time to participate in one of the Listening Sessions and/or complete the Survey. We take your feedback seriously and are grateful to be on the journey together!

Following Jesus. Together.

1501 E. BELT LINE ROAD | COPPELL, TEXAS 75019 | 972.304.8722 | WWW.VRBC.NET