

Sample Scripture Survey Report: Diocese of _____

Participants

A total of 1131 participants took the survey prior to using a bible program. 73% used the Matthew Study Guide (821), 19% used the Catholic Family Bible Experience (220).

Two thirds (721) of the group were female and one-third (364) were male. 86% were Hispanic/Latino (988), 10% Caucasian (111), 1% African American (14), 1% Asian (21)

88% identified themselves as practicing Catholics (968) 12% were not practicing their Catholic faith at this time. (132)

72% were weekly Mass attendees another 13% reported attending Mass within the last month.

46% reported using their bible program with family members (528), 36% worked on it on their own (410), and 9% used their bibles in a group setting (89).

Summary of Findings

Approximately 33% use the bible once a month or weekly. 18% use it less than once year or never (11%)

When they use the bible

- 76% reported that they always or most of time experience a sense of connection to God.
- 88% say that most of the time or always it creates curiosity in them to know God better
- 91% say that most of the time or always it makes them aware of how much they need God.

As a result of using the bible

- 73% strongly agree that they feel more willing to engage in their faith. An additional 22% agree.
- 60% strongly agree that they are more generous with their time and or finances. An additional 25% agree.
- 74% strongly agree that they are more loving. An additional 20% agree.

They hold these views of the bible itself

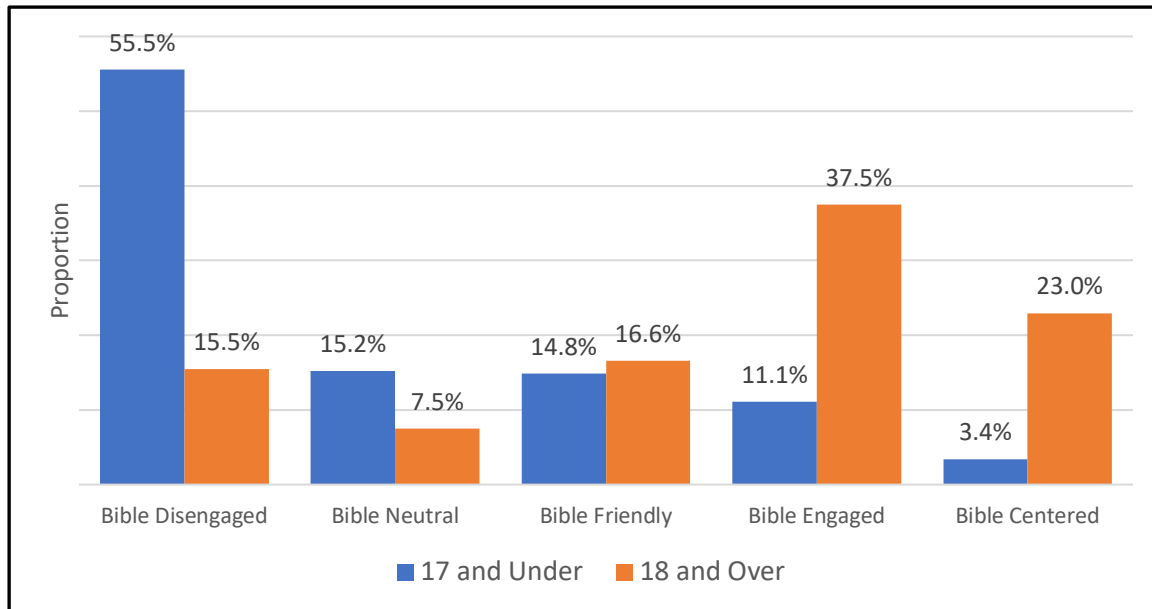
- 62% strongly agree that they see it as a rulebook/guide as to how to live. An additional 24% agree.
- 75% strongly agree that they see it as a letter from God. An additional 18% agree.
- 73% strongly agree that see it as a way of knowing what God expects of them. An additional 19% agree.

When asked how the bible influenced them

- 18% strongly agreed if influenced what they buy. 33% disagreed.
- 26% strongly agreed it influenced who they voted for. 38% disagreed.
- 24% strongly agreed it influenced the TV and movies they watched. 40% disagreed.
- 30% strongly agreed it influenced the decisions they made (at school). An additional 27% agreed. 17% disagreed.

Further analyses were conducted by segmenting the participant scores into demographic groups. Analyses were conducted using t-tests, analysis of variance, and analysis of covariance. With each of these there were statistically significant differences in Scripture Engagement Scale scores for age, gender, and language of the participants. These variables explain about 28% of the differences in Scripture Engagement.

There were many important group differences. Youth participants engaged with scripture far less and held less favorable view of it than the adults in this survey. 70% of those under 17 classified as bible disengaged or neutral.



Scripture engagement segments by participant age group.

Those who completed the assessment in English engaged with scripture less and had a less favorable view of it than those who completed the survey in Spanish. (All but six of those who completed the Spanish language assessments were in the adult group, suggesting language differences may be best explained by age differences.)

Males on average engaged less with the Bible and had a less favorable view of it than women.

Conclusion

There was great interest within the Diocese of _____ to participate in this diocesan bible program with the provided resources. One participant remarked, “These classes were an amazing opportunity to learn more about what means to be Catholic.”

3 out of 4 were practicing Catholics and weekly mass attendees.

4 out of 5 agreed that the reading the bible enhances their relationship with God, increases their curiosity to know more about God, and they are more loving because of it.

They agree that it can be seen as a guidebook on how to live and a letter from God.

Conversely, a far smaller number agree that it influenced their TV viewing, purchasing, or voting.

An overwhelming percentage of those taking the survey agreed that the bible has a very positive impact on them, yet only 40% of these participants are Scripture engaged, which suggests that Scripture engagement opportunities would be welcomed. The greatest opportunities for increasing engagement are present in programs with those 17 years of age and younger.

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Note: Digital copy of actual survey and all responses sent in another attachment