



LIFESIGNS[®]

HOW ARE YOU? REALLY.

LifeSigns: Analysis and Insights

For Elder Board meeting, March 15, 2017

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"I thought it was great because I could really have a conversation with God and feel safe."

– LifeSigns participant

LifeSigns is simply two Conversations...



Step #1: The “Vertical Conversation” with God

*"Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
And see if there be any hurtful way in me,
and lead me in the everlasting way."*

– Psalm 139:23-24



Step #2: The “Horizontal Conversation” with others

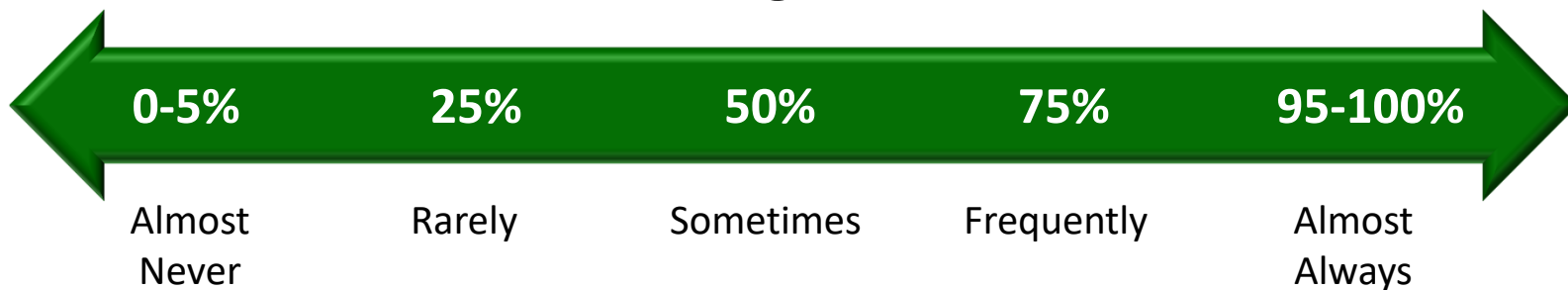
"When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours."

– Romans 1:12

LifeSigns Scale: What do the numbers mean?

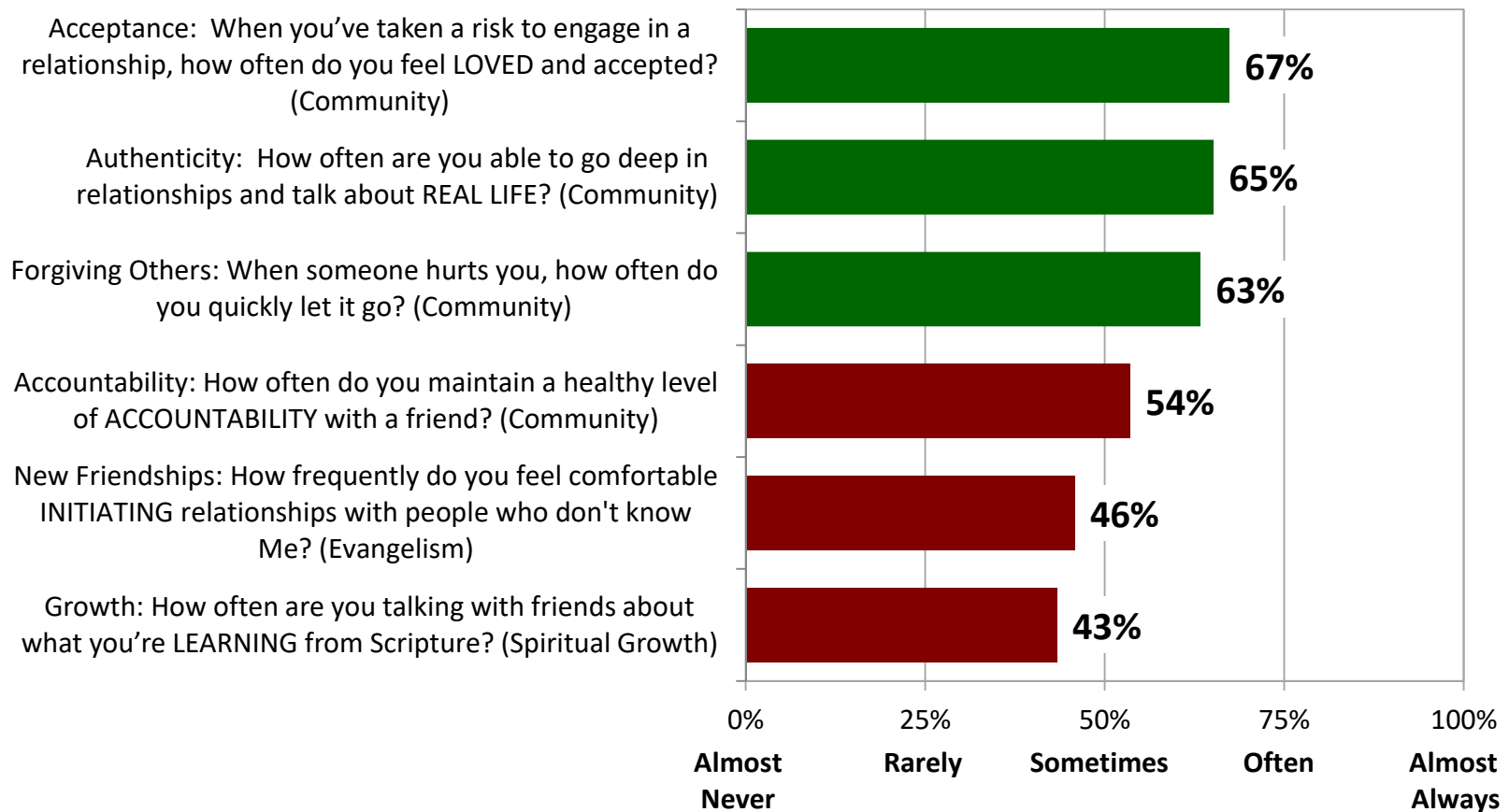
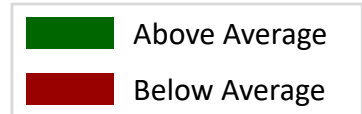
- All questions are positively worded: “How often are you _____?” (more is always better)
- Unit of measure: 0-100% of the time (frequency)

The LifeSigns Scale





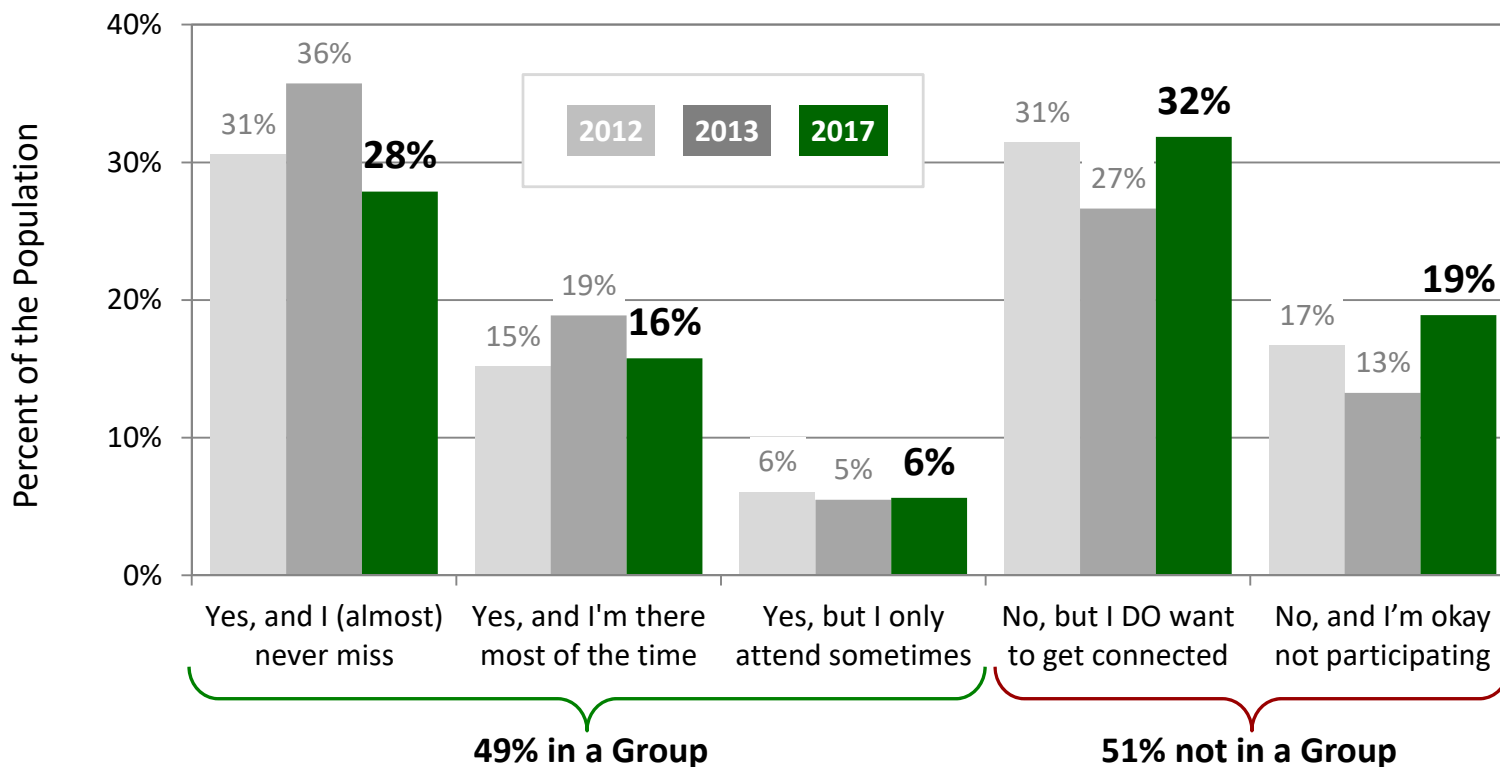
Relationships: 2017 Ranked Highest to Lowest





Small Groups: Frequency of Participation

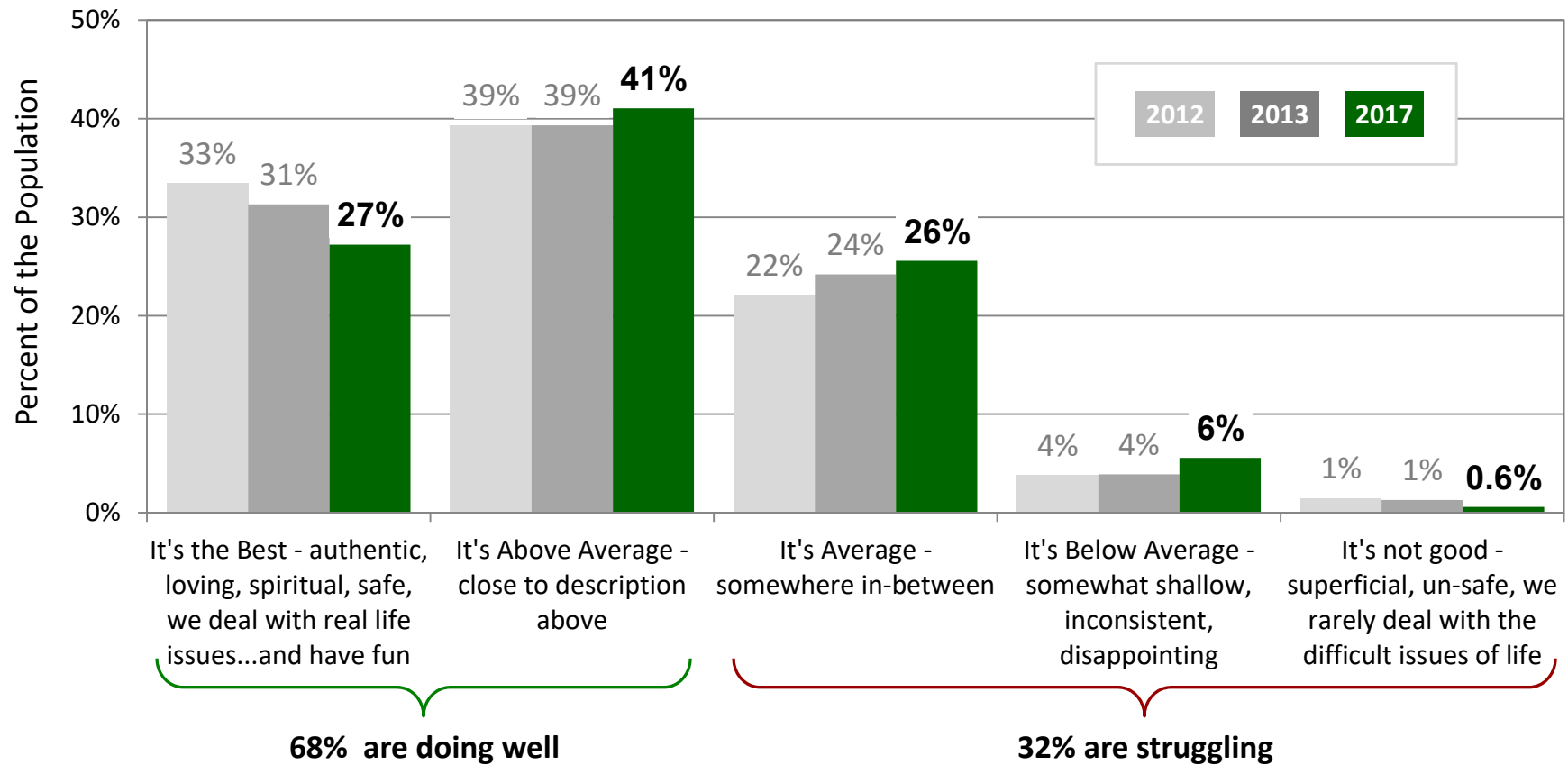
Are you actively participating in a small group of some kind through the church? (i.e., a LifeGroup, Bible study, serving group, etc.)





Small Groups: Depth of Relationships

If you ARE in a small group at the church, what's it like? Honestly.





Small Group: If not, why not?

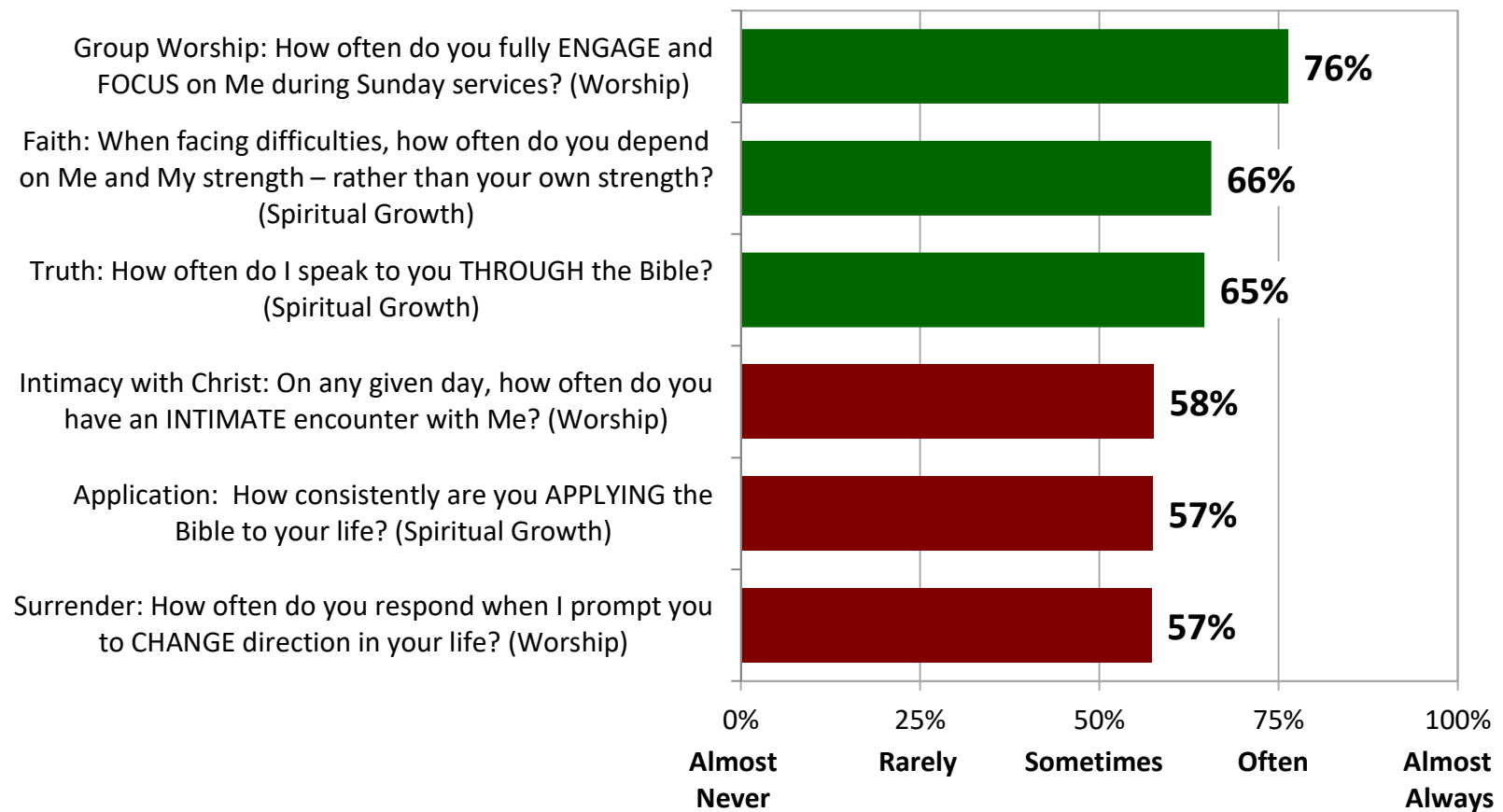
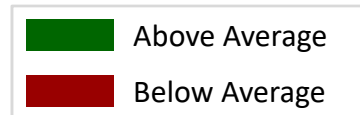
Question: “If you're NOT in a small group of some kind, why not? What's standing in your way?” (check ALL that apply)

- 49% Doesn't work with my schedule, childcare, driving distance (42% in 2013)
- 31% It's just not a priority, don't have time (33% in 2013)
- 21% I've tried before, had a bad experience (21% in 2013)
- 20% My spouse doesn't want to (18% in 2013)
- 18% Don't know how to get connected (24% in 2013)
- 13% I'm just not into small groups (14% in 2013)
- 8% It's not worth the effort vs. the benefit (10% in 2013)

See Appendix: 345 people provided “other” reasons for not engaging in a small group.



Walking with Christ: 2017 Ranked Highest to Lowest





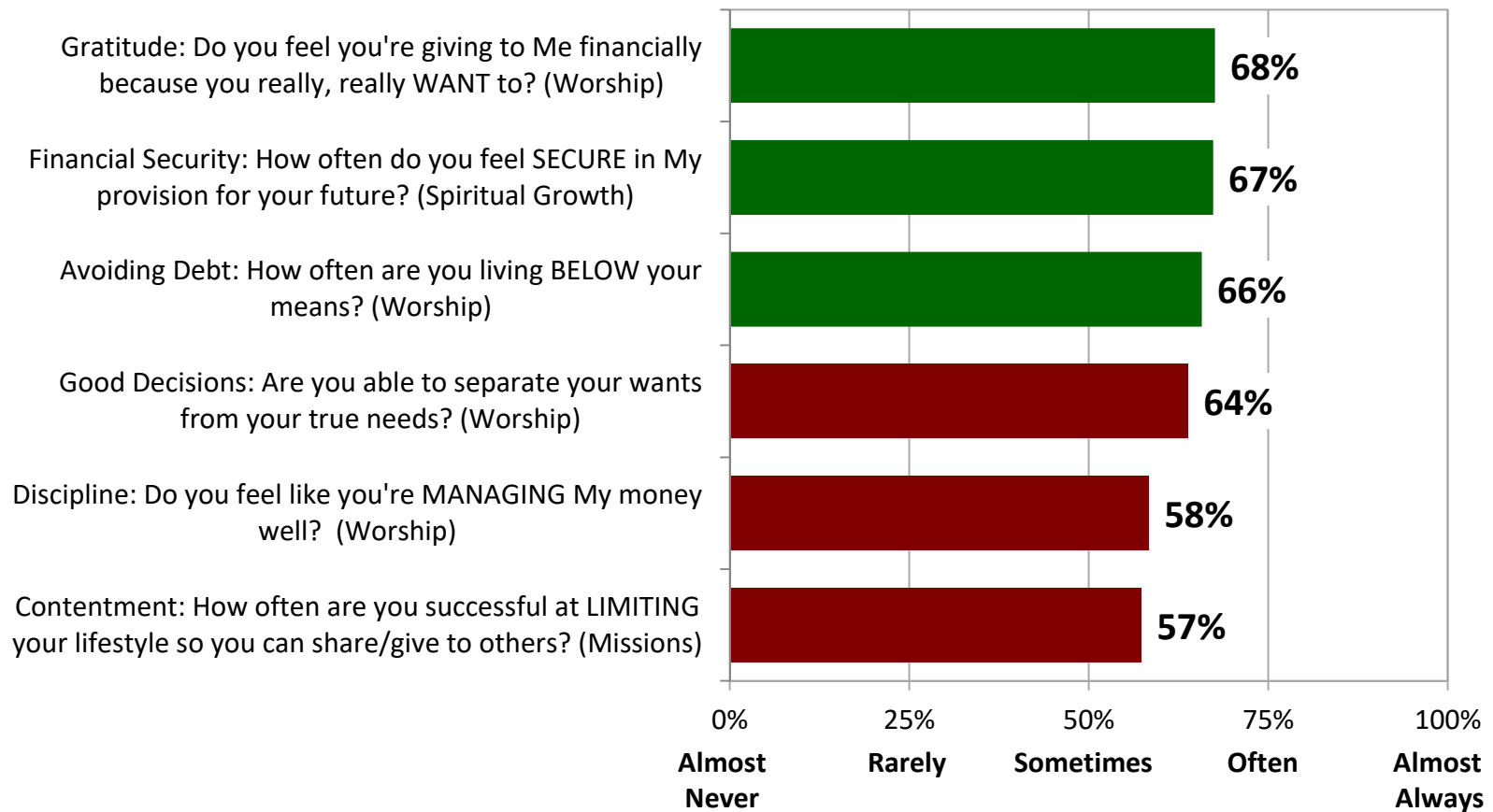
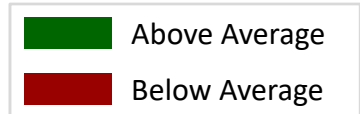
Assurance of Salvation

Question: “Salvation: Have you reached a point where you’re certain you have a RELATIONSHIP with My son Jesus Christ – and that you’re 100% forgiven and accepted?”

- 1.6% said, “I’m just exploring” (20 ea.)
- 4.7% said, “I’m well down the path” (59 ea.)
- 13.9% said, “I’m at least 90% sure” (176 ea.)
- 79.9% said, “I’m 100% certain I have that kind of relationship” (1,011 ea.)



Money and Finances: 2017 Ranked Highest to Lowest

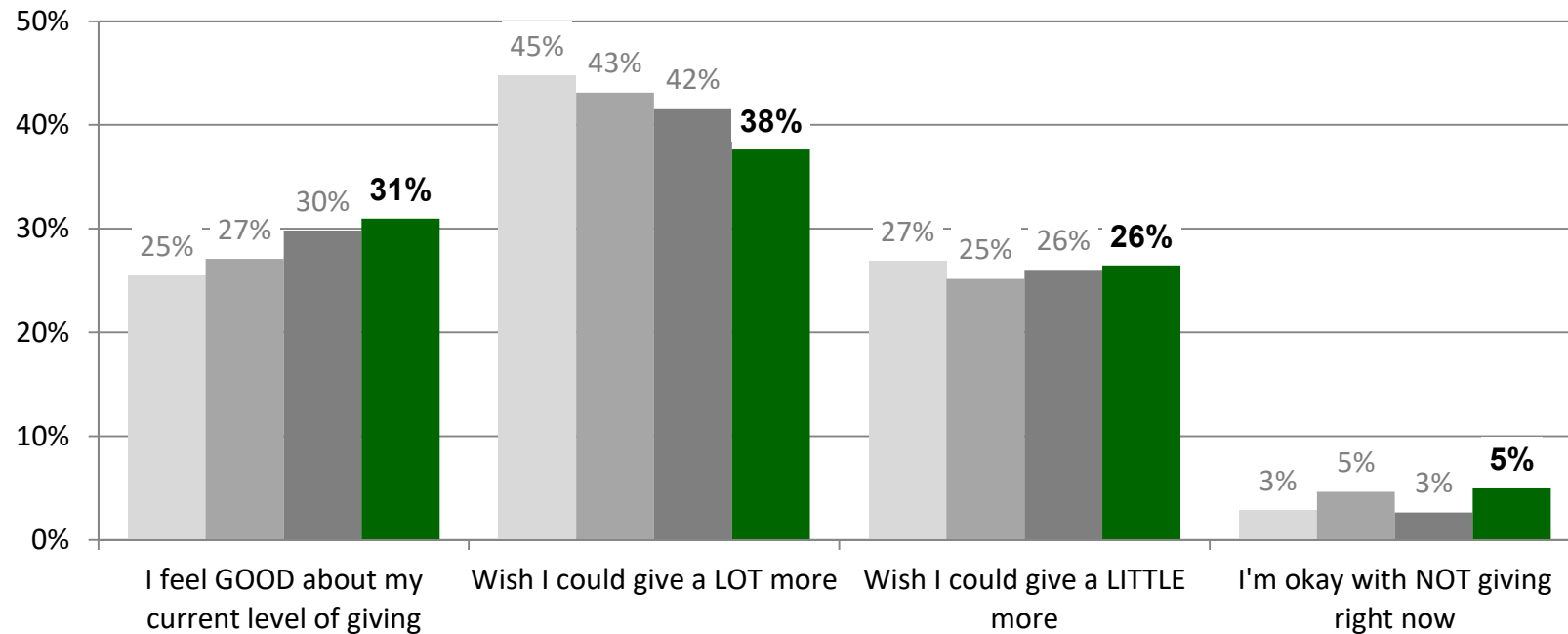




Trends in Giving



Desired Giving: How do you feel about your financial giving these days?
(i.e., to My work with churches, ministries, the needy, etc.)





Giving: If not, why not?

**Question: “If you WANT TO give more, what's standing in the way?
What makes it difficult?” (check ALL that apply)**

- 41% Too much debt - so not able to give (42% in 2013)
- 39% My income has been reduced (44% in 2013)
- 21% It's just not a priority right now (20% in 2013)
- 15% My spouse doesn't want to (14% in 2013)
- 12% I forget to give regularly (16% in 2013)
- 9% I don't want to feel forced to give (10% in 2013)
- 5% Not sure the church would use it well (5% in 2013)
- 1% I don't know what the Bible says about giving

See Appendix: 339 people provided “other” reasons for not giving

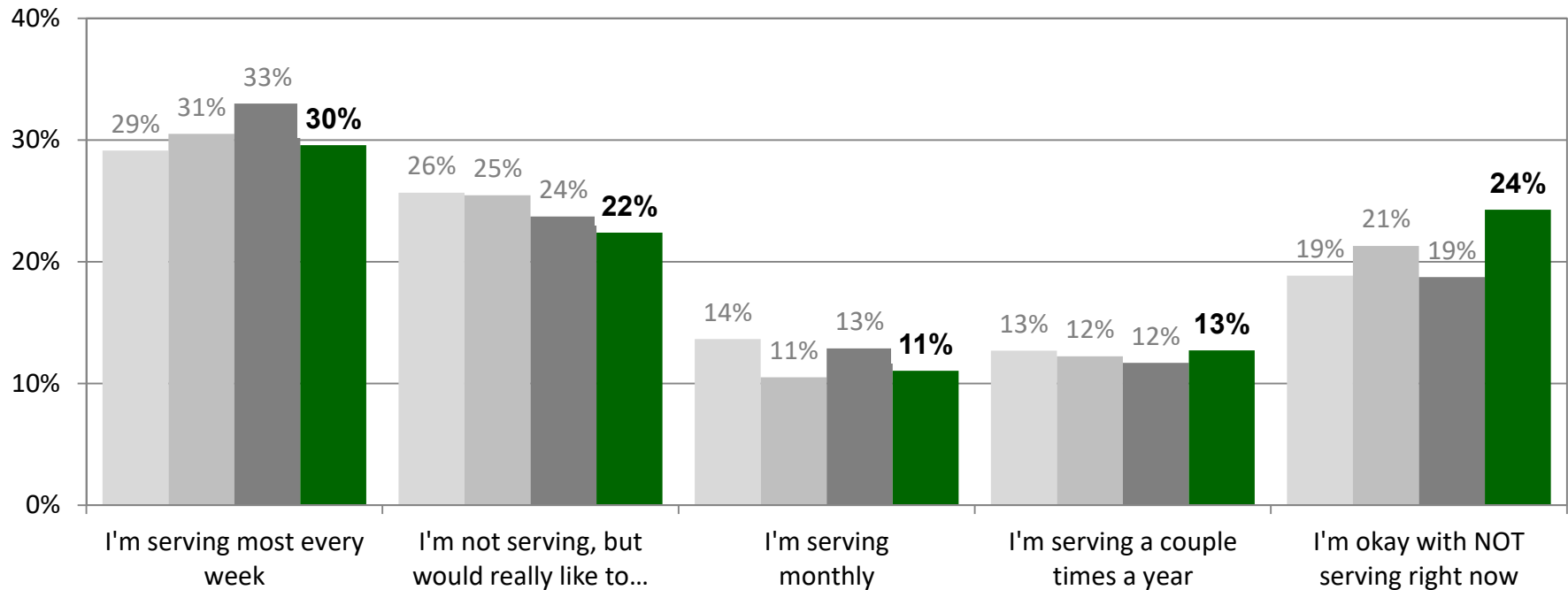




Trends in Serving



How often are you involved in serving inside the church? (i.e., in a specific ministry, using your gifts, making a difference, etc.)





Serving: If not, why not?

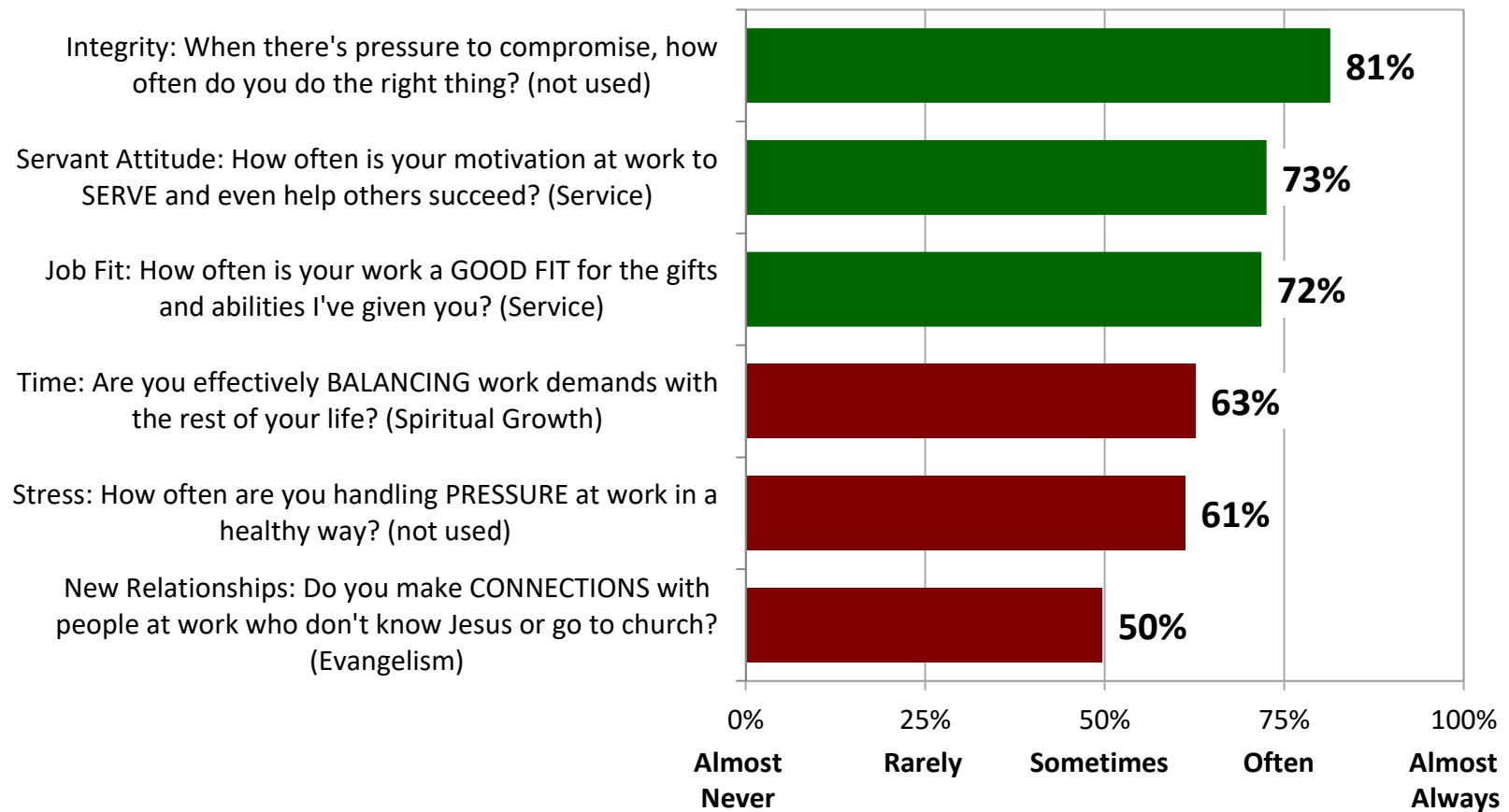
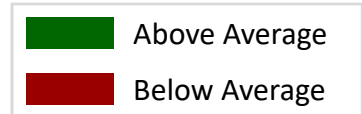
Question: “If you're NOT currently serving as much as you'd like to, why not? What's standing in your way?” (check ALL that apply)

- 47% It's just not a priority, I have a full plate (40% in 2013)
- 40% Just don't have the time (31% in 2013)
- 35% Not sure how to get started (38% in 2013)
- 11% I tried before and had a bad experience (14% in 2013)
- 4% My spouse doesn't want me to (5% in 2013)
- 2% It's not worth the time/effort (2% in 2013)

See Appendix: 297 people provided “other” reasons for not Serving

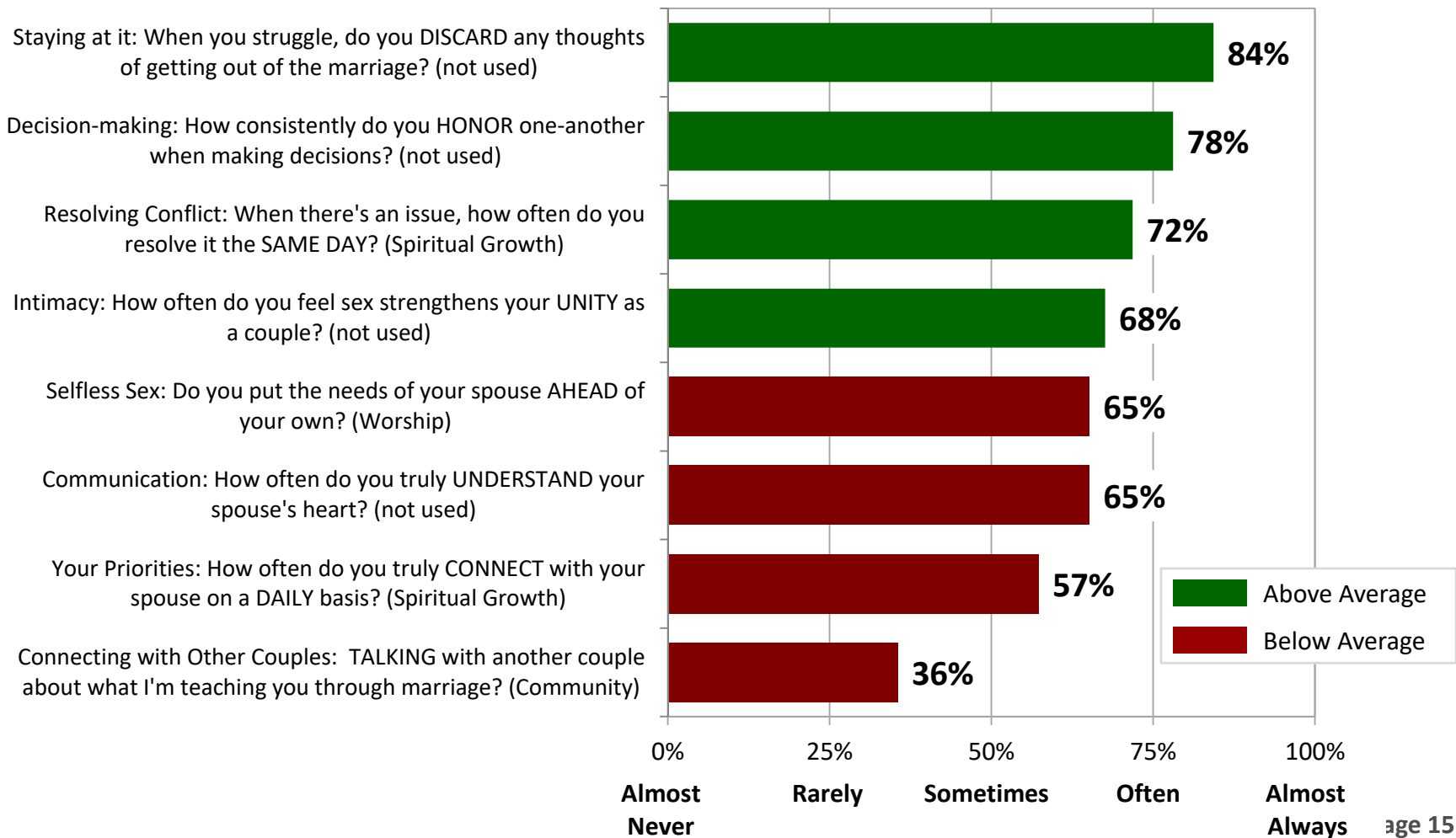


Work Life: 2017 Ranked Highest to Lowest



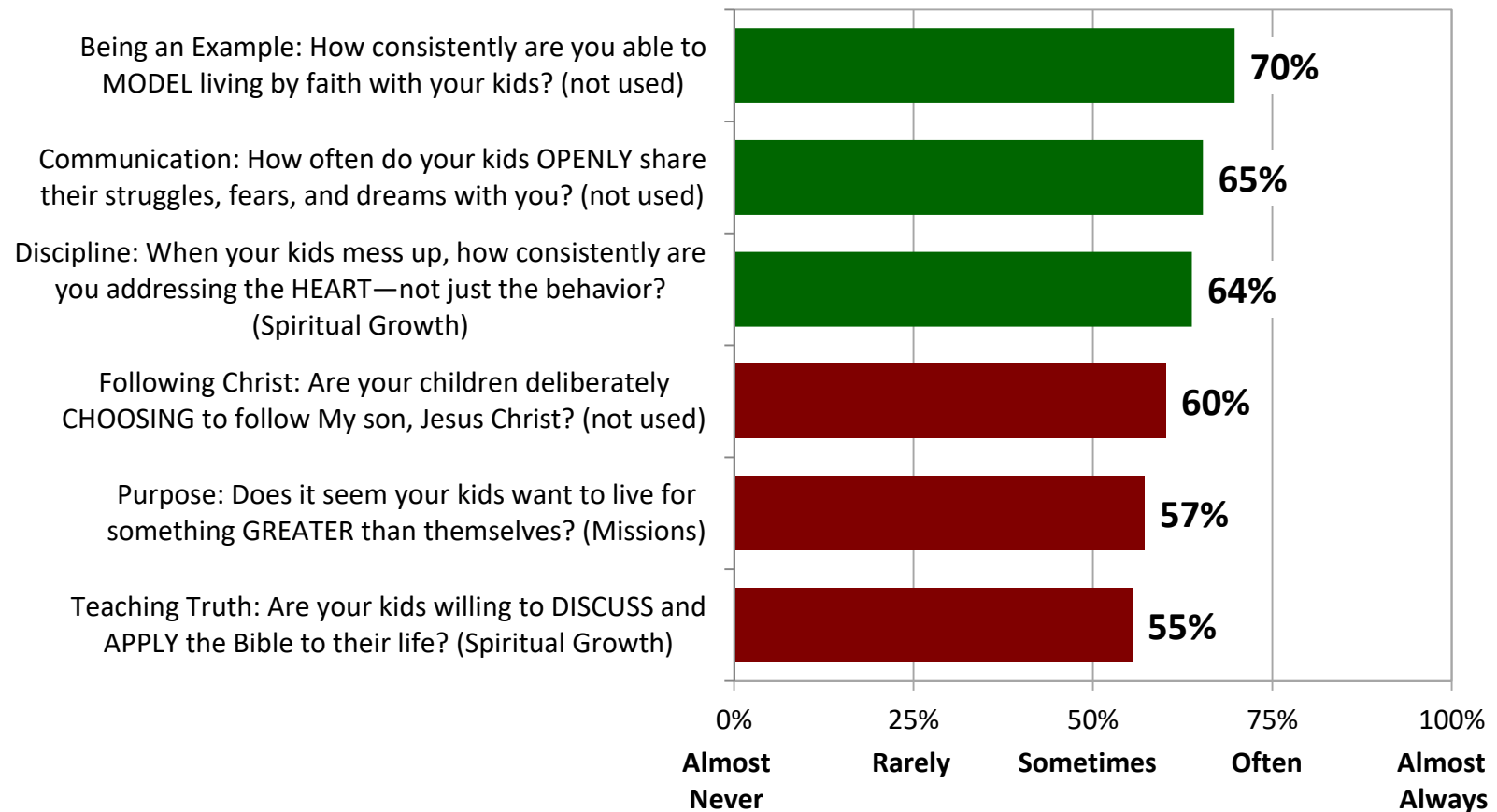
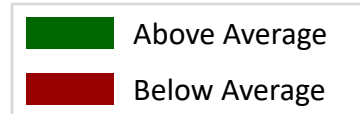


Married Life: 2017 Ranked Highest to Lowest





Parenting: 2017 Ranked Highest to Lowest





Hurtful Habits: Specific struggles

32% (315 ea.) opted-in to Hurtful Habits module
6% (63 ea.) have a friend/loved-one struggling

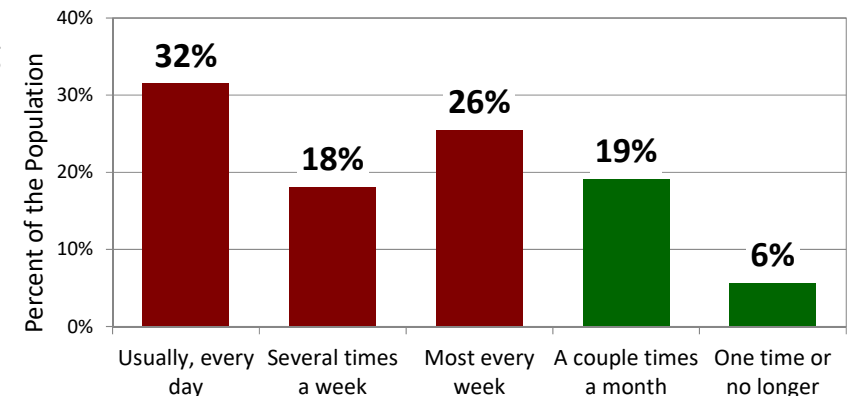
“What negative behaviors have you feeling stuck, trapped, or defeated?”

(i.e., anything goes: food, alcohol, drugs, porn, sex outside of marriage, shopping, weed, pain killers, heroin, escapism, etc.)

Many people have more than one struggle:

- 140 people – Food: overeating, comfort, bingeing, junk food, sugar, caffeine, body image, eating disorder, exercise, dieting
- 128 people – porn, lust, masturbation, sexting
- 71 people – alcohol, drugs, nicotine, prescriptions
- 30 people – sex outside marriage: adultery, immorality
- 23 people – escapism, isolating, social media, TV
- 17 people – shopping, excessive spending
- 6 people – depression, anxiety, codependency

Over the last several months, HOW OFTEN are you engaging in these hurtful habits or destructive behaviors?



See Appendix: 42 other struggles (i.e., anger, pride, shame, homosexuality, hoarding, etc.)



Learn how to get this kind of insight for your church.

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Note: This is an abridged version of the 50-page LifeSigns aggregate report for churches.