

Wider Leaders - Jan 2026 - Survey - South Reflections

- Very encouraging!
- The One church reflections were all echoed in South responses
- Of the 35 South responses, potentially up to 10 of those were Wicklow folks - something the congregation team kept in mind as we reviewed the responses

(1) Evangelism - pathways

- Lowest scoring question from the South congregation was “I regularly have opportunities to share my testimony / summary of the gospel to someone who doesn’t know Jesus”
- Whereas feeling equipped to share your testimony / the gospel to a non-believer scored much higher

Praise God, people are equipped... but don’t have the opportunity to share... we as a congregation team want to think about how to help people merge their universes.

Things that could work well:

- Social justice projects together with our colleagues/neighbours/friends
- Sports - maybe playing golf or doing a parkrun, or watching a sports match/game with friends from church and friends from other spheres
- Classes - using the talents in our church to run a class (e.g. a knitting class)
- Thinking about this for the congregation but also for each city group, can CGs own and plan events that work for the people in their group?

(2) Corporate Prayer - high value, challenge to attend

- Very striking in the Discipleship section of the survey
- Highest scoring question - corporate prayer is a key part to belonging to a local church
- Lowest scoring question - I regularly attend the monthly prayer and worship nights

Great, people really value corporate prayer! And the reasons people can’t make it to P&W are valid.

We recognise everyone has a lot on, but it’s once a month and so we’d love to chat and learn more about why people don’t attend and to help people think about how to prioritise P&W

From the survey, some of the reasons people can’t make it to P&W:

- **Schedule**
 - We appreciate people are busy with work and family and don’t want to add more pressure

- P&W is just once a month and so if you haven't come yet - give it a try! You might be surprised that it is a refreshing time
- **Family life**
 - Lots of young families, we acknowledge that is hard, you're stretched
 - Something we've seen work well is alternating, one parent one month, the other the next
- **Confidence in praying with others**
 - If this is you we would love to help you, please chat to someone in the congregation team or a leader in the church
 - We're planning to run a corporate prayer seminar in March
- **Distance**
 - For people in Wicklow it is far to travel mid week
 - Some people from Wicklow do make it so maybe lift sharing could help

Very encouraging, people value corporate prayer, our congregation team will be thinking about and chatting to people about the practicalities.

(3) Schedules - Stillorgan/Wicklow, young parents

- Highest scoring questions - related to community, people feel they belong and different church activities give people a chance to connect
- Dynamics of congregation at the moment, sometimes it is difficult to organise events and activities

Dynamics - young families - mid week is hard, Sunday after the service is hard (nap time). We've run a number of online parenting seminars in the evenings and those have been great

Midweek is also difficult with people in two different geographies - South Dublin and Wicklow

This is an acknowledgement rather than an action point, we're trying to simplify things, less seminars. Lunches after the services have been working well, kids are involved and there is a growing sense of community

We appreciate prayer for wisdom on how we can care for and disciple people that are stretched with family and work

In particular, as we think about running an evangelistic course this year - the different schedules and locations of our members **and** those they might invite will require wisdom - thank you for your prayers!