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Prayer from St. Francis de Sales

*Do not look forward in fear to the changes
and chances of this life;
Rather, look to them with full confidence
that, as they arise,
God, to whom you belong, will in His love
enable you to profit by them.
He has guided you thus far in life,
and He will lead you safely through all
trials;
and when you cannot stand it,
God will carry you in His arms.*

*Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;
the same everlasting Father
who cares for you today
will take care of you then and every day.
He will either shield you from suffering,
or will give you unfailing strength to bear it.
Be at peace, then, and put aside
all anxious thoughts and imaginations.*

Amen.

DeSales Media: Catholic Discipleship in the US

*Episode 5:
Community –
Connection, Growth,
and Renewal*



Agenda

Speakers

Initial Findings

New Findings

Q&A

Coming Attractions

Appendix



Speakers

Speakers



Scott Weeman
Founder, Catholic in Recovery



Andrew Whaley
Founder, Calix



Fr. John Gribowich
High School Instructor of Theology
Director of Curriculum, Sunday to Sunday

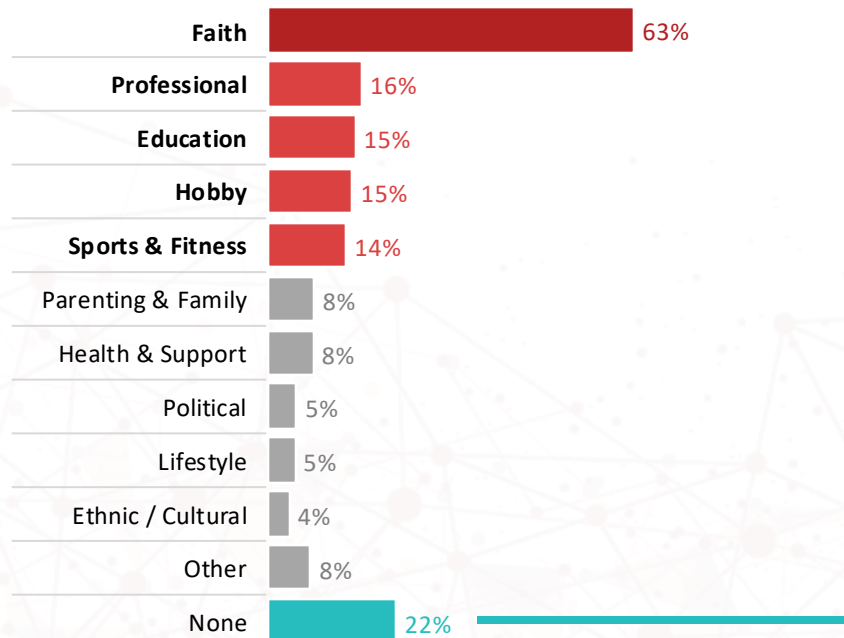


Dave Plisky
Director of Product &
Innovation, DeSales Media

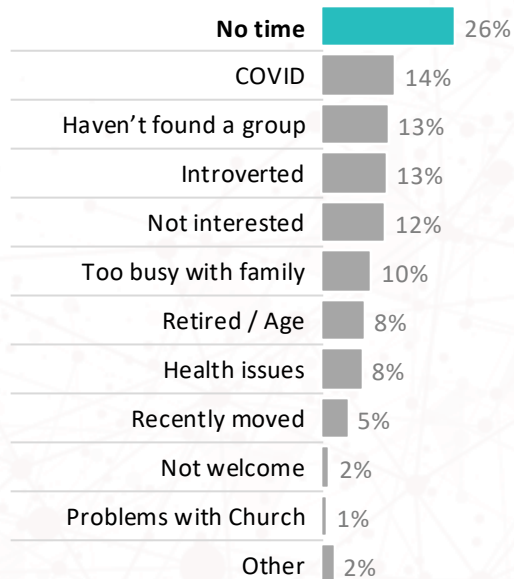
Initial Findings

More than three-quarters are involved in a group, most often faith-related.

Social / Community Group Involvement



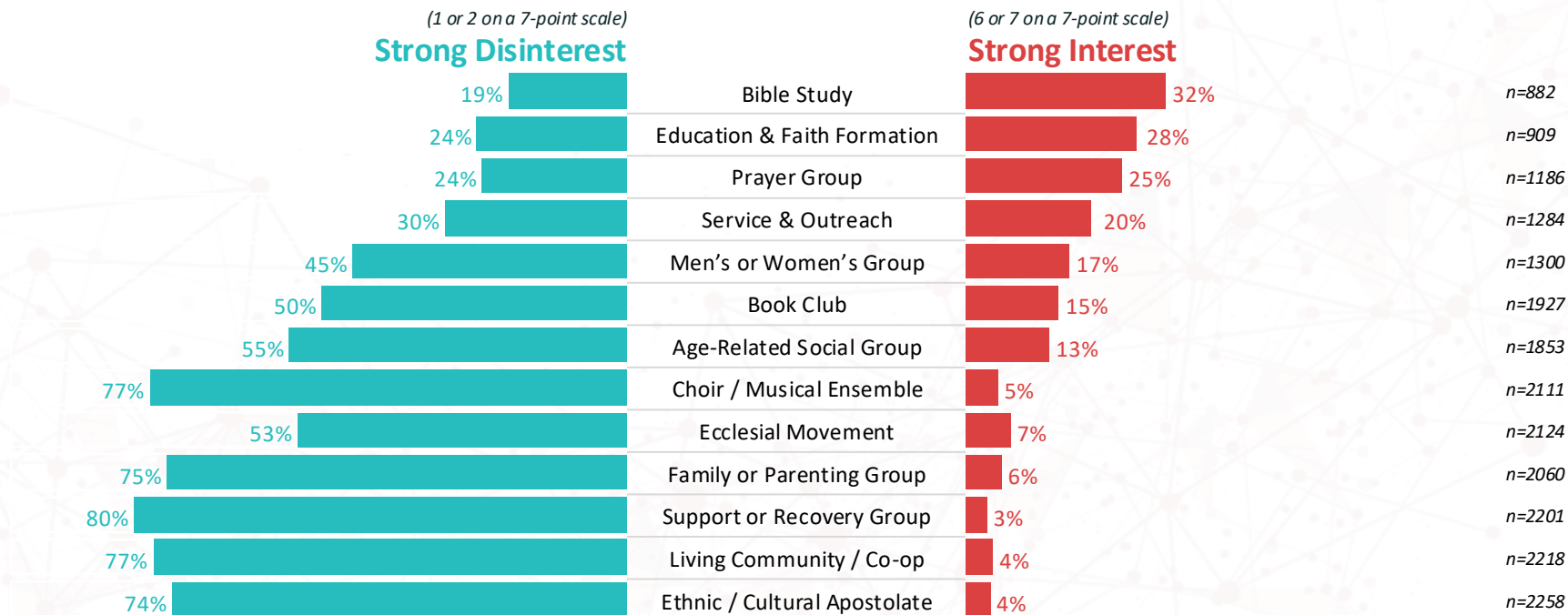
Reasons for No Involvement



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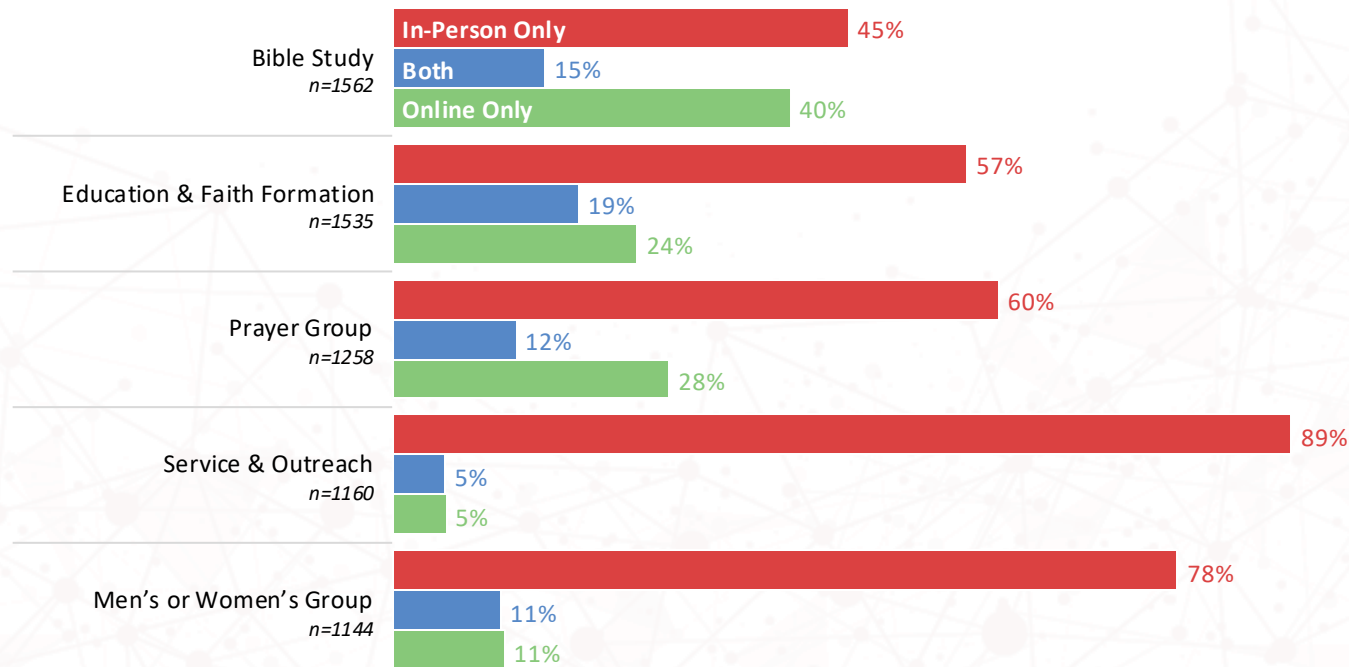
Among those not involved in each type, there is still some interest in joining many faith-based communities.

Faith Group Interest (among those not currently involved in each)



With the exception of bible studies, most common faith communities meet in person. However, online interactions are not unusual.

Top 5 Faith Communities: Format



Community / Fellowship is a leading feature of groups

Social / Community Groups: Best Features (Coded)



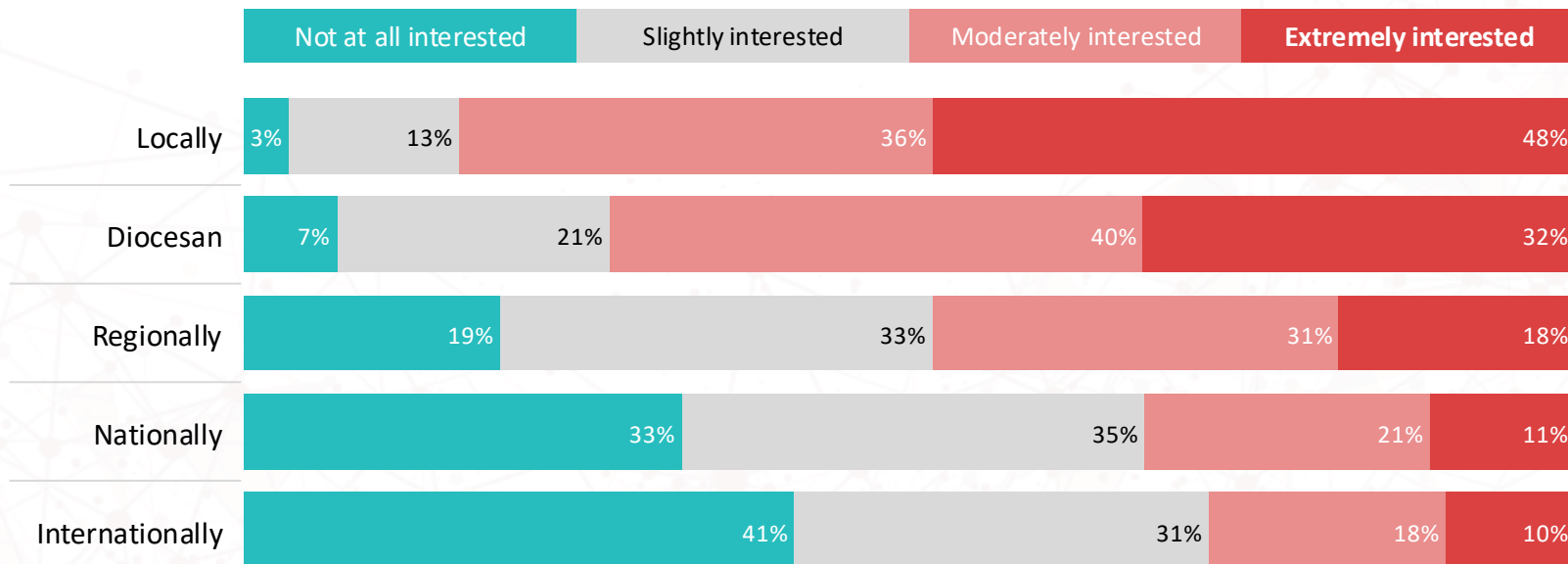
Community / Fellowship is a leading feature of groups

Social / Community Groups: Best Features (Coded)



This group of Catholics expresses high interest in connecting with other faithful Catholics at the local and diocesan levels.

Interest in Making Faith Connections with Others

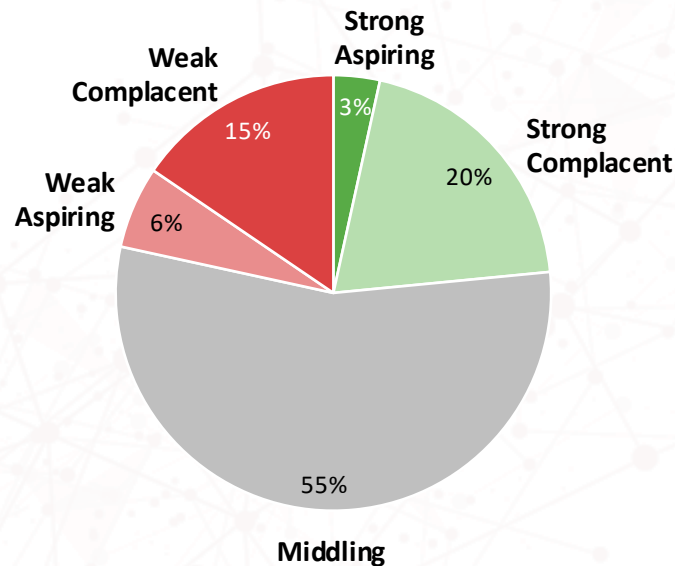
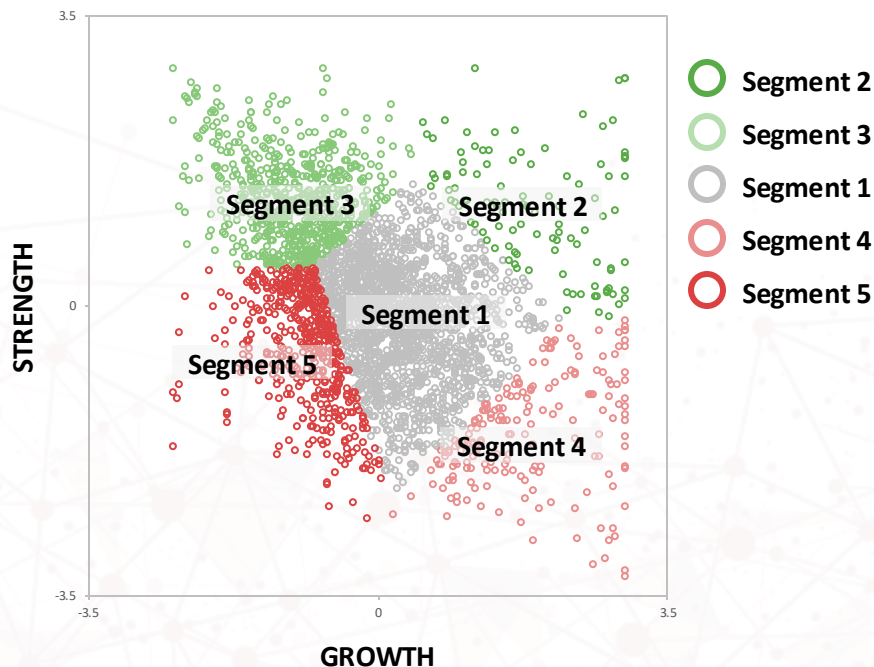


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New Findings

Five segments were identified using self-perceived strength and desired growth across a number of areas: discipleship, interior fruits of faith, interior life, sacramental life, and expressive fruits of faith

Respondent Segmentation



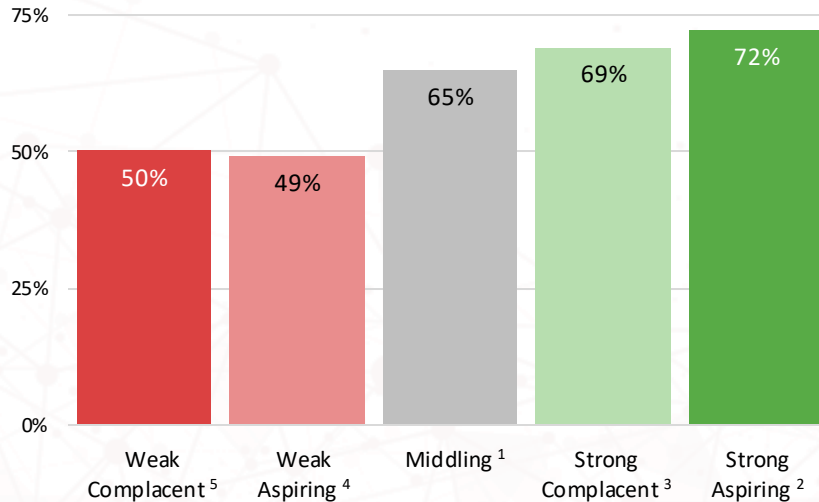
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A5: Understanding that there is always room for growth, how strong do you feel you are in each of the areas below?
A6: Please indicate how much growth you would like to see for yourself in each of the areas below?

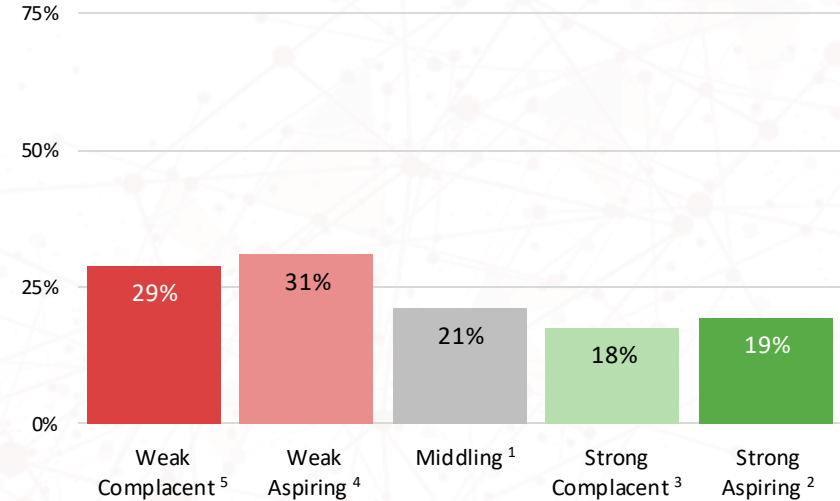
The “stronger” and Middling segments are more likely to be involved in faith groups. Slightly more of the “weak” segments are not involved in any group.

Social / Community Group Involvement

Involved in Faith Group

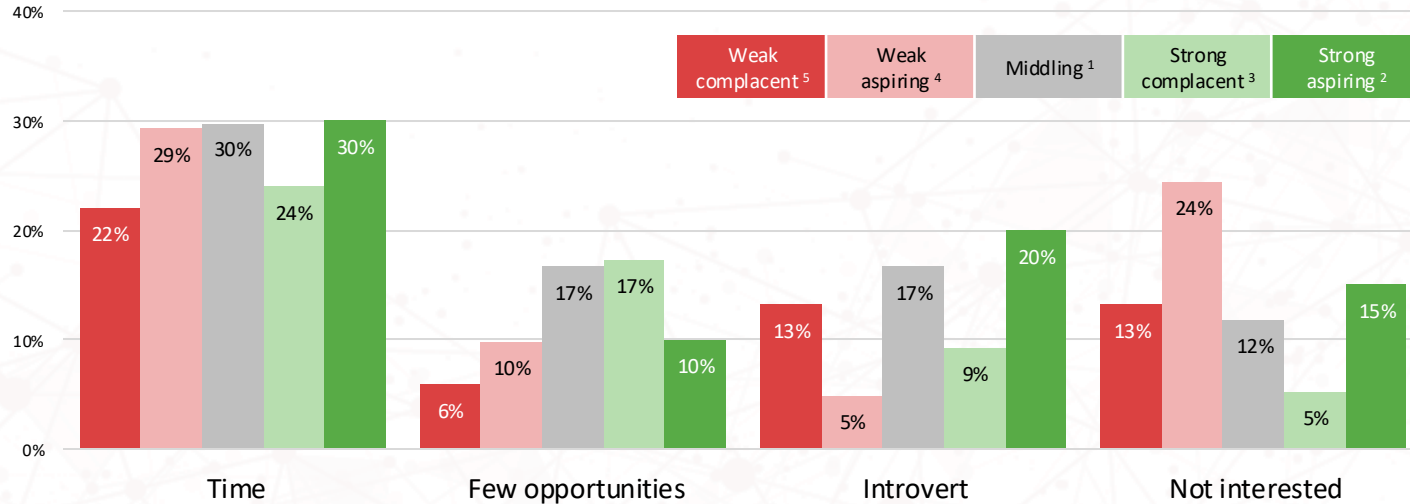


Not Involved in Any Group



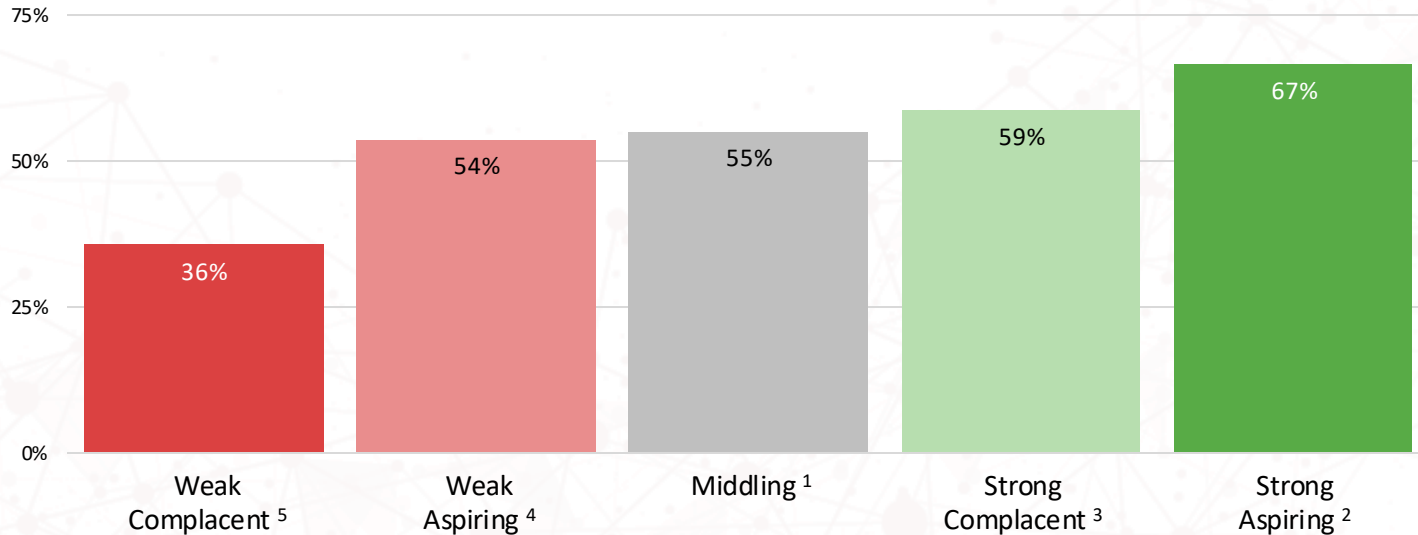
The Weak Aspiring are less likely to be interested in groups. All cite time as a barrier.

Reasons for Not Being Involved in Social or Community Group



The majority of all segments except the Weak Complacent are interested in making faith connections.

Extremely Interested in Making Faith Connections with Others in Any Geography



Segment summary: community and spiritual direction

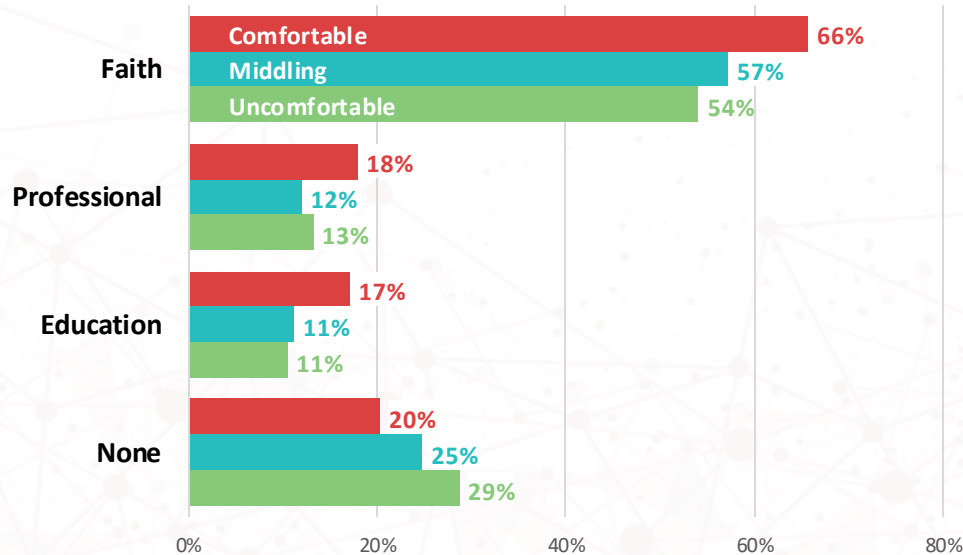
Attribute:		Weak Complacent ⁵	Weak Aspiring ⁴	Middling ¹	Strong Complacent ³	Strong Aspiring ²
Barriers to Groups	Involved in faith groups	Moderate		High	Highest	
	Time	Yes				
	Introverted	Yes				Yes
	Interest	Yes				
	Lack of opportunity			Yes		
	Interest in connecting w/others	Low	Moderate			High
	Spiritual direction experience	Lower		Moderate	High	
	Online spiritual direction interest	Low	High	Moderate		

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B1: Comfort Faith-Sharing

► D1: Group Involvement

Are you involved in any types of social or community groups for any of the following categories?



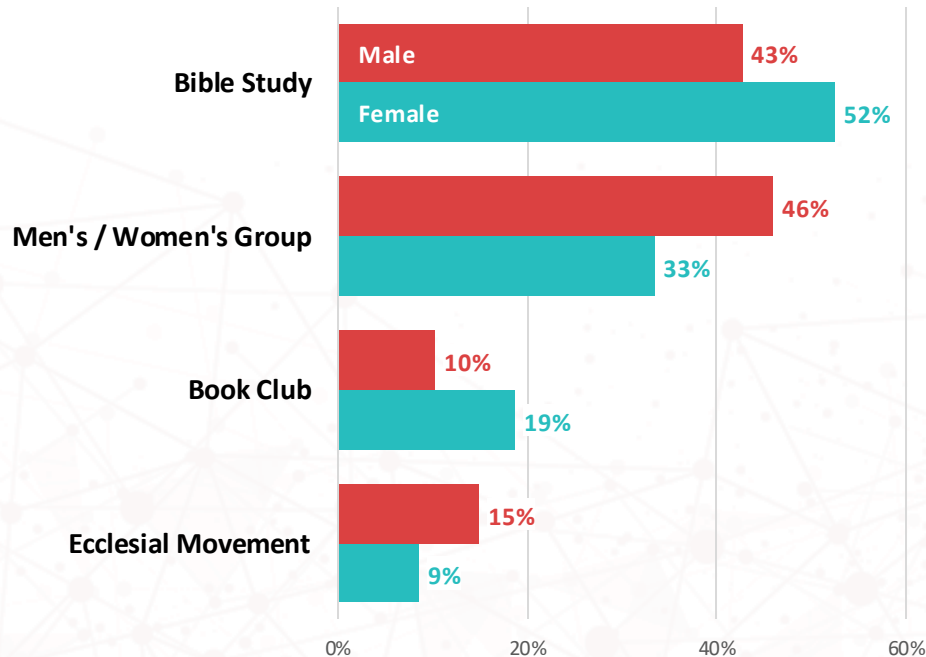
	Comfortable	Middling	Uncomfortable
Hobby	15%	15%	12%
Sports/Fitness	13%	14%	13%
Parenting/Family	9%	8%	6%
Health/Support	8%	9%	6%
Political	6%	3%	4%
Lifestyle	5%	5%	2%
Ethnic/Cultural	4%	3%	4%
Other	8%	8%	6%

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Comfortable	2151
Middling	690
Uncomfortable	296

F1: Sex

► D7: Faith Communities + D8: Interest in Faith Communities

With which kinds of faith communities do you interact?



	Male	Female
Education / Faith Formation	50%	46%
Prayer Group	41%	37%
Service / Outreach	36%	41%
Age-Related Social Group	19%	17%
Family / Parenting Group	12%	13%
Choir / Musical Ensemble	11%	10%
Support / Recovery Group	8%	8%
Living Community / Co-op	7%	9%
Ethnic / Cultural Apostolate	5%	8%

How interested are you in each?

	Male	Female
Bible Study	39%	49%
Prayer Group	27%	36%
Book Club	13%	21%

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Male	796
Female	2300

Coming Attractions





Upcoming Webinar in this Series

Episode 6: Generational Differences in Discipleship – Same Goal, Different Roads

Guest: Josh Packard, Founder of [Future of Faith](#)

Monday, Dec. 9, 1:00pm EDT



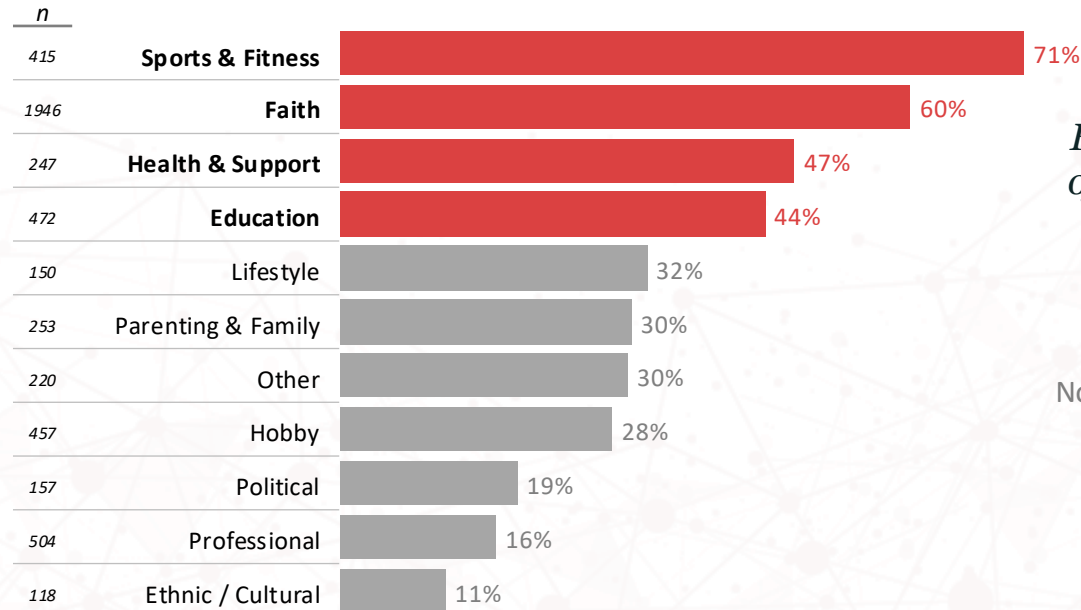
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Appendix

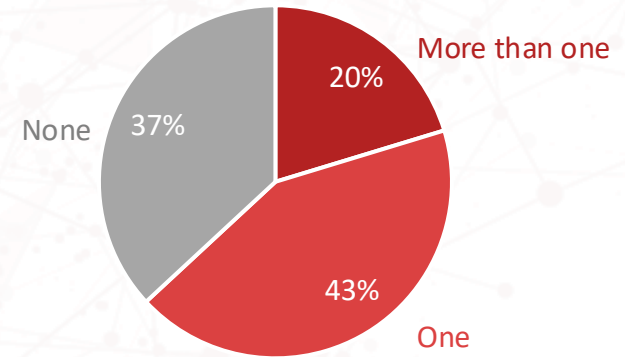
Many of these groups, including faith groups, meet weekly.

Social / Community Group Frequency: Weekly



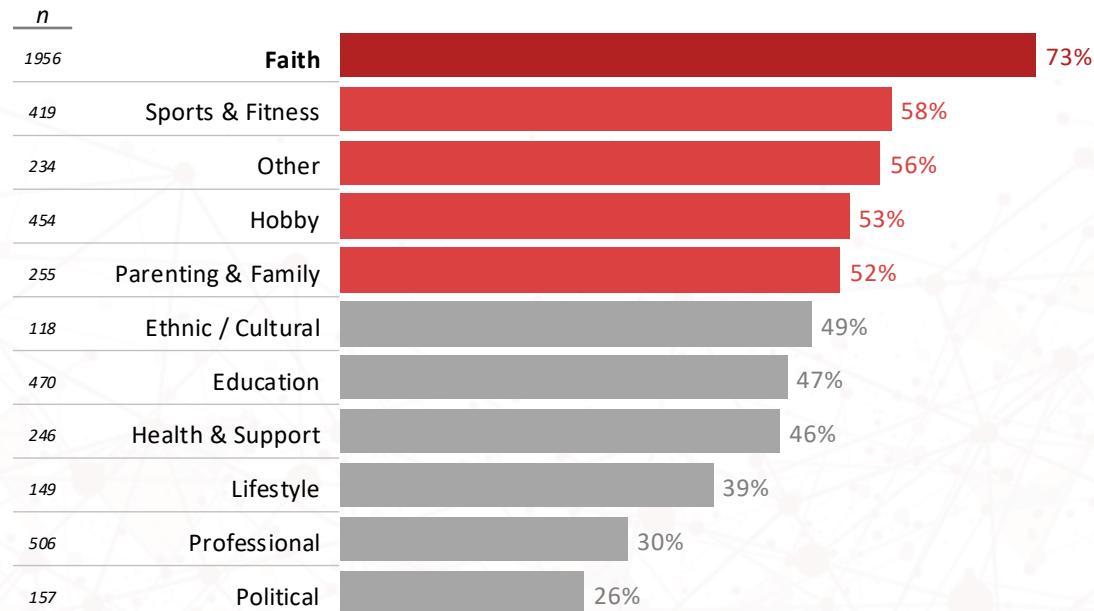
*Each Respondent's Number
of Groups that Meet Weekly*

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Those who participate in faith groups look forward to participating more than those who participate in other groups.

Social / Community Group: Look Forward to Participating “A Great Deal”



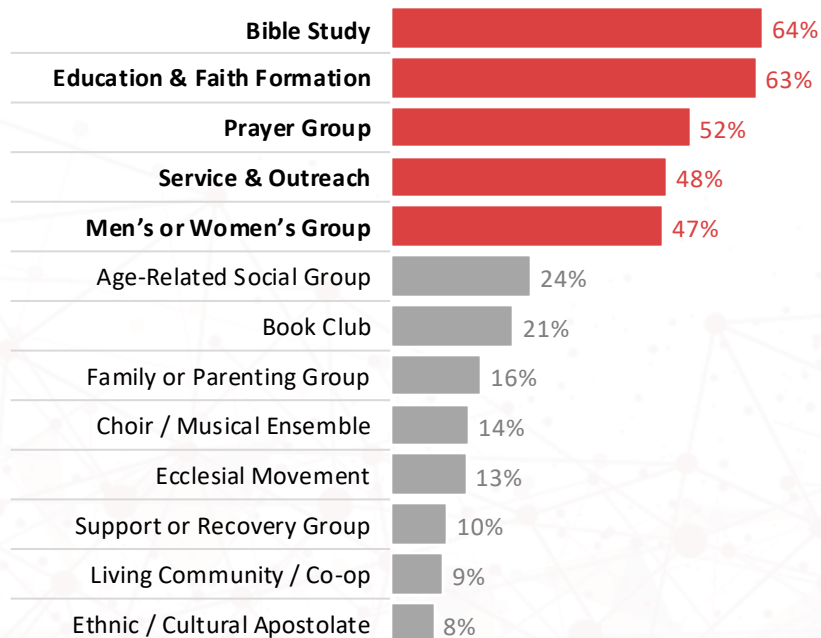
Top responses for “Group Name” in each community category

Social / Community Groups: Group Name

	#1	#2
Faith	Men’s / Women’s Group 15%	Bible Study 13%
Professional	Medical / Health 9%	Catholic 8%
Education	Religious Education 9%	College / Master’s 6%
Hobby	Sewing / Knitting 10%	Book Club 9%
Sports & Fitness	Gym 7%	Watersports 4%
Parenting & Family	Moms’ Group 9%	Homeschooling 4%
Health & Support	Health / Medicine 13%	Sports / Fitness 7%
Political	Republican Group 18%	Democratic Group 6%
Lifestyle	Religious Community 7%	Food & Drink 5%
Ethnic / Cultural	<i>Too few to code meaningfully</i>	<i>Too few to code meaningfully</i>
Other	Catholic 7%	Music / Art 6%

These Catholics are involved in many diverse groups, most notably formation related, some social groups, and service and outreach.

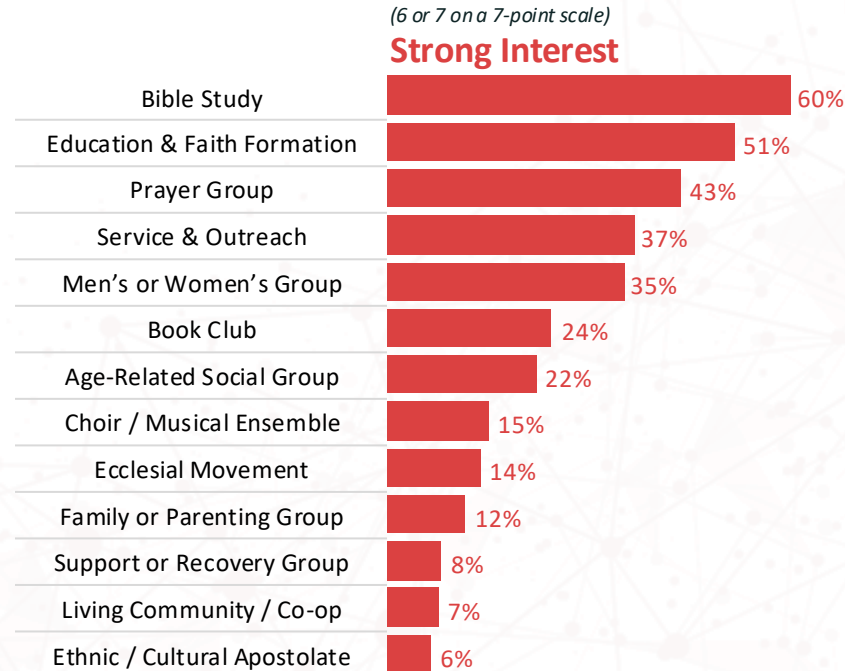
Involvement in Faith Communities



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Many of these respondents are interested in continuing to grow their faith through study/formation, service, and various social groups.

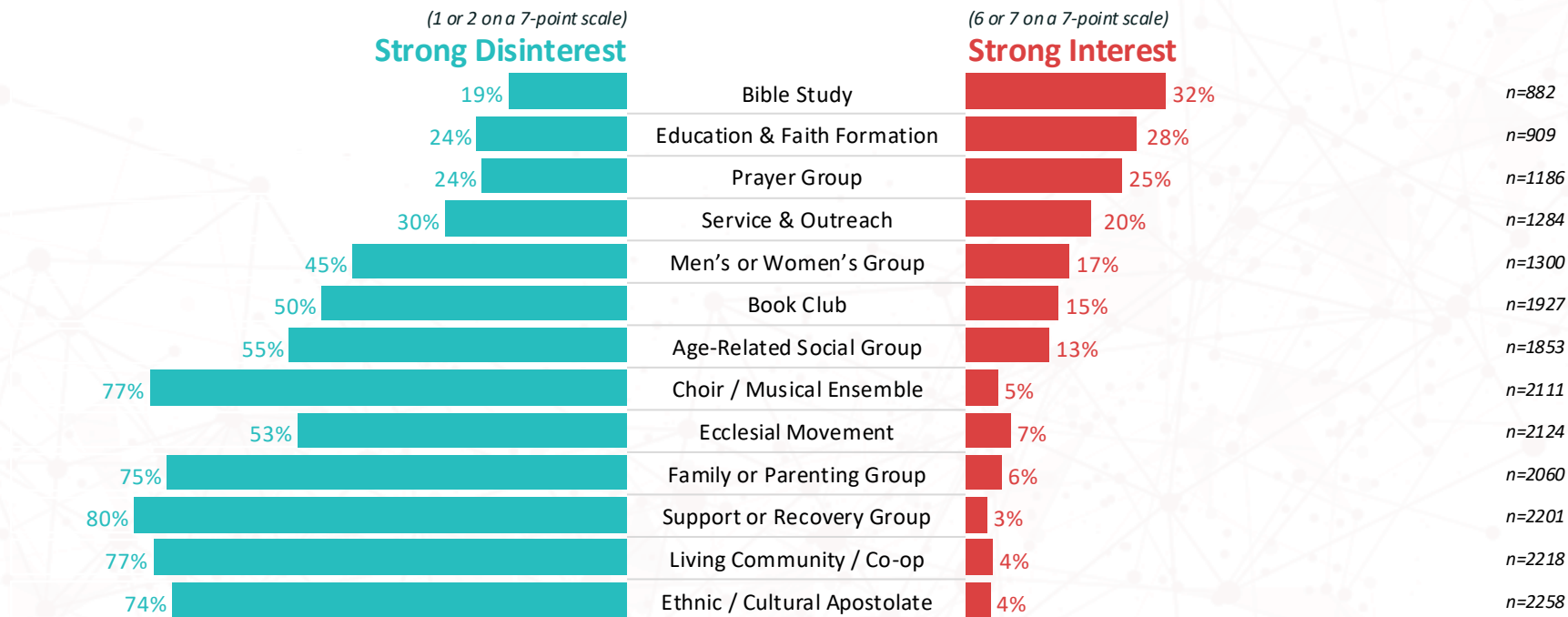
Faith Group Interest



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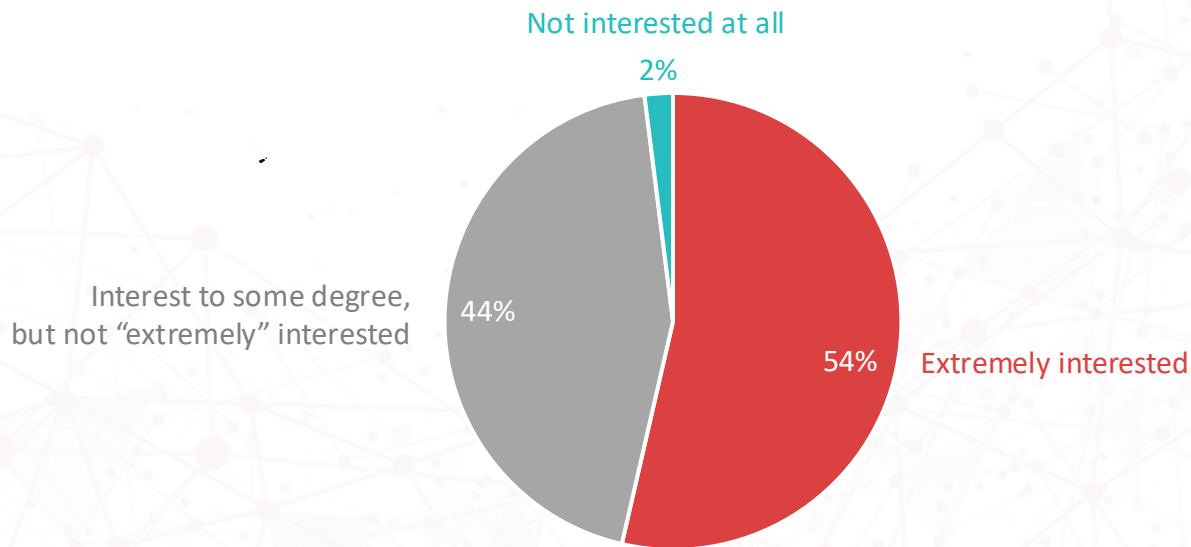
Among those not involved in each type, there is still some interest in joining many faith-based communities.

Faith Group Interest (among those not currently involved in each)



This group of Catholics expresses high interest in connecting with other faithful Catholics (full breakdown on next slide).

Interest in Making Faith Connections with Others



n=2444

D8: Interest in Groups

► E2: Daily Apps + E6: Tech Statements

Which of the following types of mobile device apps do you use daily?

Respondents interested in Ethnic / Cultural and Family / Parenting Groups use the indicated apps significantly more than those interested in other groups:

Age-Related Social Group
Bible Study
Book Club
Choir / Musical Ensemble
Ecclesial Movement
Education / Faith Formation
Ethnic / Cultural Apostolate
Family / Parenting Group
Living Community / Co-op
Men's / Women's Group
Prayer Group
Service / Outreach
Support / Recovery Group

Gaming
Lifestyle
Spiritual
Shopping
Social Media
Weather / News
Business / Finance
Educational
Navigation
Communications
Entertainment
Productivity

How much do you agree with the following [tech] statements? – Top 2 Agree

Interested in Ethnic / Cultural Apostolates

The apps I use are essential to keeping my life organized 40%

I often lose track of time when using apps 37%

I enjoy looking for new apps that can improve my life 31%

I constantly seek out new apps 15%

These are significantly higher than those interested in other groups