



## 8. DISCUSSION BRIEFING - SAMPLE

Bob Rose, Ph.D. Executive Administrator CP District of the C&MA

**Issue:** we would like to identify how we will know if we are actually accomplishing our mission

### Mission Statement

“Building friendships with God, with each other and with the people of our world”

as a church. We will start on the *first component* of our mission statement tonight.

**How will we know if we are actually ‘building friendships with God?’**

### ***Questions to Get You Thinking***

1. How do I know if my own relationship/friendship with God is growing/building?
2. The idea of “building” suggests that there are different stages in one’s relationship with God. Do you agree and if so, what might these be?
3. What do we mean when we say we have a friendship with God? How might we describe it?
4. What do you think some of the signs are that a friendship with God is building in a person’s life?
5. Is this something we should try and ‘measure’ in the congregation? If so, how might we get a congregation-wide sense of how we’re doing?
  - 5.1. Would we be content with an individual’s own statements that it’s growing, or would we prefer something we can see and assess beyond that?

If you have extra time, you might want to:

1. Read the attached article from *Discipleship* magazine, or
2. Think about Abraham’s relationship with God: he was called “the friend of God” (James 2:23), or
3. Reflect on the meaning of Jesus words in John 15:14-15 about the nature of friendship.