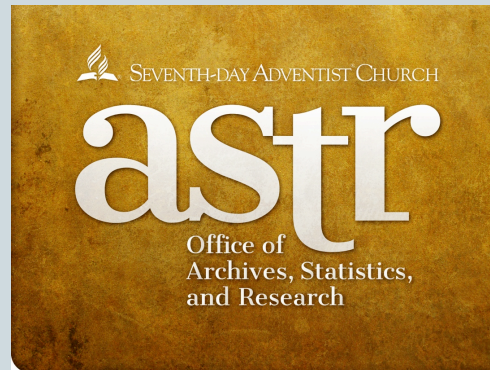


# Reach the World



## **GCDO ADVISORY 2015**



# Christ's Commission



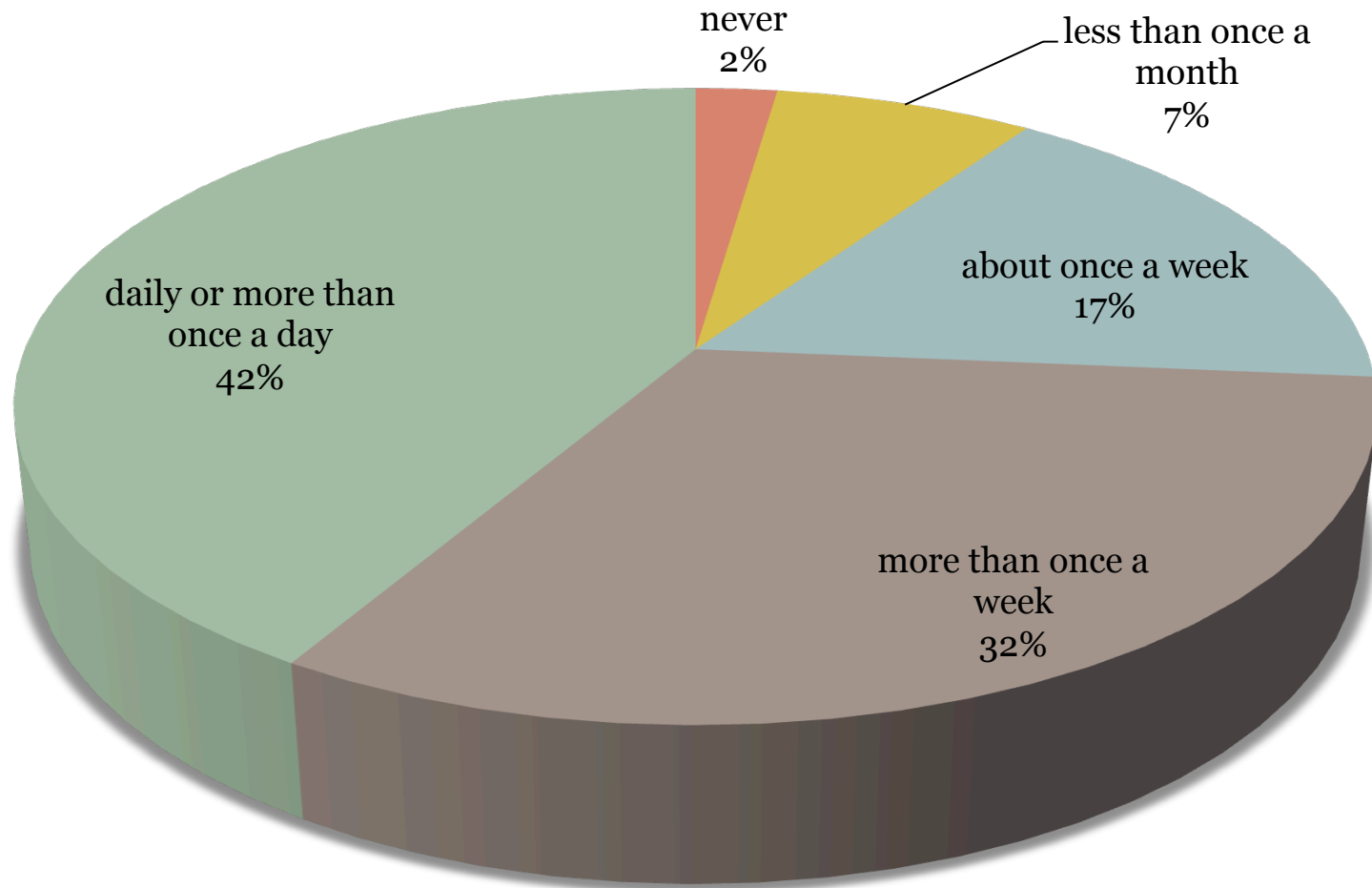
- “make disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28:19)
- “... in all the world” (Mark 16:15)
- “... to all nations” (Luke 24:47)
- “... unto the uttermost parts of the earth” (Acts 1:8)

# Five major research projects



- Over 41,000 interviews or completed questionnaires from all around the world:
  - i. 4,260 pastors from all divisions and 93% of unions shared about their experience in ministry
  - ii. More than 35,000 church members from all six inhabited continents and nine divisions, survey of beliefs, attitudes, experiences in the local church, and spiritual-life practices
  - iii. Almost 1,200 current students/recent graduates—aged 20-30—of Adventist universities in North America
  - iv. Around one thousand former members shared the experiences that led to them leaving our ranks

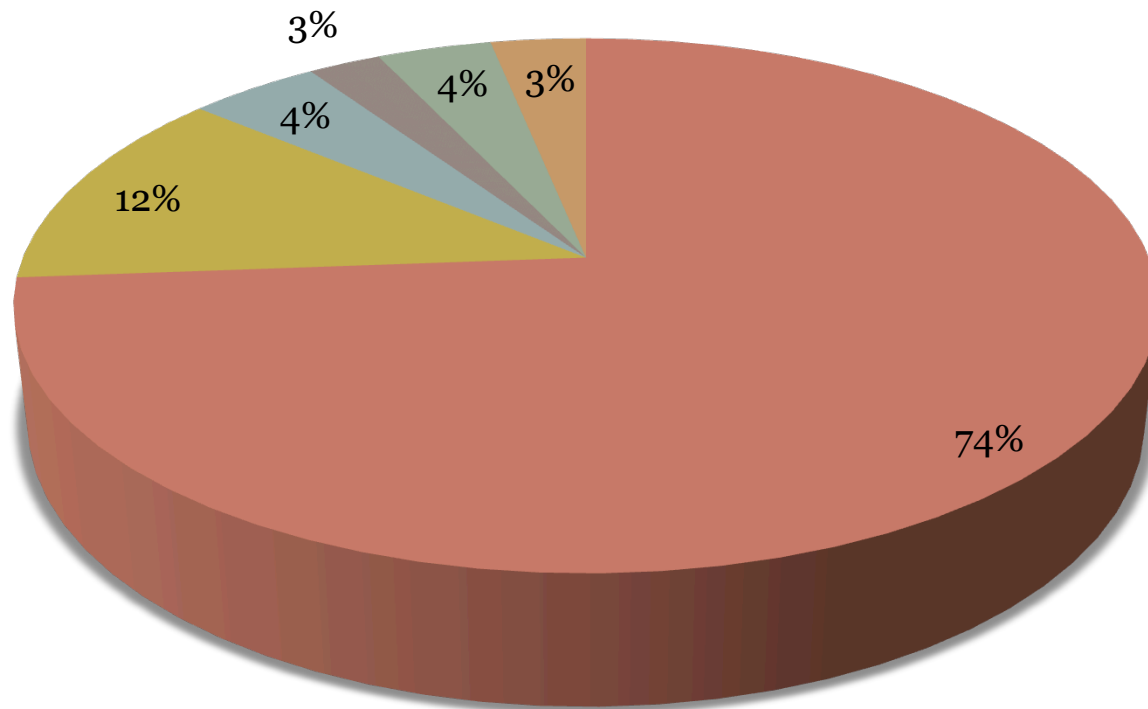
# Episodic Bible-reading patterns



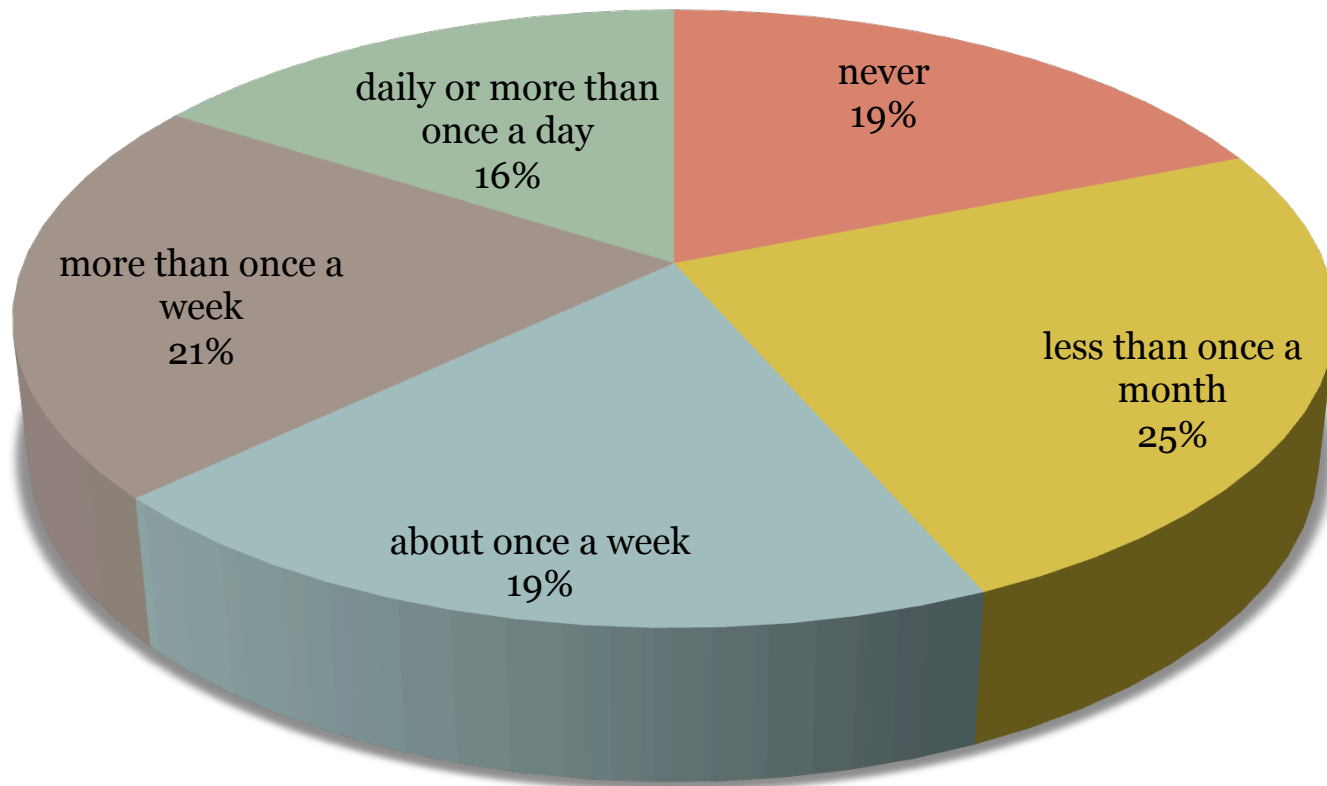
# Confidence in Ellen White's prophetic gift



- I embrace it wholeheartedly
- I accept it because the church teaches it
- I have some questions about it
- I have major doubts about it
- I don't accept it
- Not important to me



# Very limited reading of Spirit of Prophecy



# The Adventist World and Big Cities

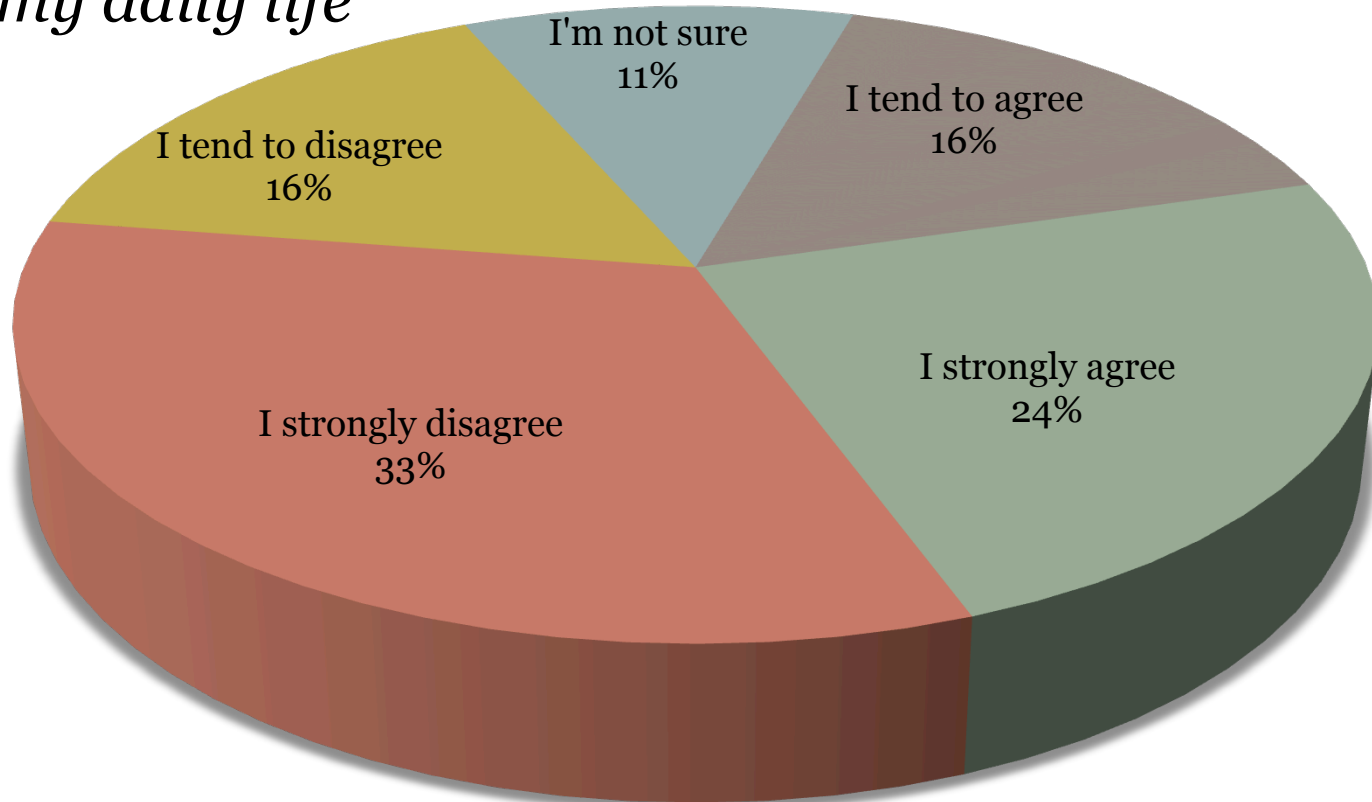


- As of June 30, 2013:
- Global Population = 7,133,547,000
- Church Members = 17,994,120
- Population to Members Ratio = 396.4 to 1
- Global Urban Population = 1,704,240,000 (approx. estimated)
- Urban Church Members = 3,111,801 (estimated)
- Global Urban Population to Members Ratio = 547.7 to 1

# Very limited reading of Spirit of Prophecy



Question statement: *Although I am religious, I don't let it affect my daily life*

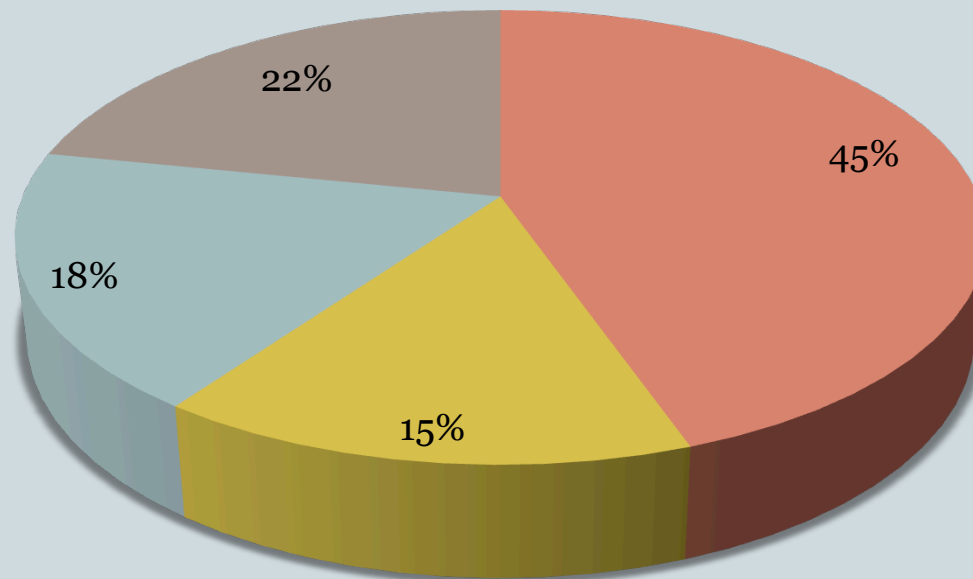




# Skepticism about imminence of 2nd Advent



Question statement: *I expect the world to end within the next twenty years*



strongly disagree   disagree more than agree   agree more than disagree   strongly agree

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach Up to God**

1. To involve Adventist members in daily Bible study
2. To engage all members in doctrinal study, as essential for spiritual maturity
3. To make all members better acquainted with Ellen White's counsel and prophetic ministry
4. To increase the engagement of church members in biblically authentic spiritual practices

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach Up to God**

5. To foster among pastors, teachers, members, and students in denominational institutions, greater appreciation for and insight from a study of Scripture that uses the historical-grammatical method and historicist approach to interpretation, including the understanding of prophecy
6. To encourage church members to adopt regular patterns of worship

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach In with God**

7. To enhance unity and community among church members
8. To nurture believers in lives of discipleship and to involve them in service
9. To increase the engagement of young people in the life of the church

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach In with God**

10. To affirm the administrative role of pastors in organizational leadership
11. To improve leadership practices in order to enhance the credibility of, and trust in, the church organization, its operations, and mission initiatives

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach Out with God**

12. To enhance Adventist outreach and presence across the 10/40 Window
13. To enhance Adventist outreach and presence in large urban areas worldwide
14. To make planting new groups of believers a priority in all parts of the world
15. To substantially reorient our understanding and methods of mission

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach Out with God**

16. To engage all church members, pastors, and leaders in full partnership
17. To increase the involvement of young people in the mission of the church
18. To encourage local churches to take the initiative in communicating the three angels' messages and carrying out the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

# *Reach the World: Strategic Objectives*



## **Reach Out with God**

19. To raise the profile of mission to non-Christian religions and belief systems
20. To strengthen the world church's global resources for mission
21. To optimize communication plans and methodologies so as to empower the work and witness of the church