

PASS IT ON

LEAD CONFERENCE, 2019



Statistics and Key Data on Adventist Youth

David Trim



HOW MANY YOUTH ARE THERE?



- We don't know for sure
- **Source 1:** Membership systems = actual numbers but adoption incomplete, so need to extrapolate
- **Source 2:** Surveys — not actual numbers but global

Church membership systems (2018)

- Children (12 and below)
= 3.96%
- Teenagers (13–17)
= 9.38%
- Young Adults (18–29)
= 26.91%
- Senior Young Adults (30–35)
= 11.39%

Church membership systems (2018)

UNDER 18 = 13.34%

ALL YOUTH = 51.6%

Global Church Member Survey (2018)

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UNDER 18 = 8.4%

ALL YOUTH = 43.6%

Global Church Member Survey (2018)

- Children (12 and below)
= 0.92%
- Teenagers (13–17)
= 7.48%
- Young Adults (18–29)
= 21.01%
- Senior Young Adults (30–35)
= 14.18%

Membership Systems:

Children = 4%

Teenagers = 9.3%

Young Adults = 27%

Sen. Y Adults = 11.3%

Median age:

38 years, 2 months

Global Surveys:

Children = 1%

Teenagers = 7.5%

Young Adults = 23%

Sen. Y Adults = 14%

Median age:

40 years, 9 months

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But *are* we passing it on??

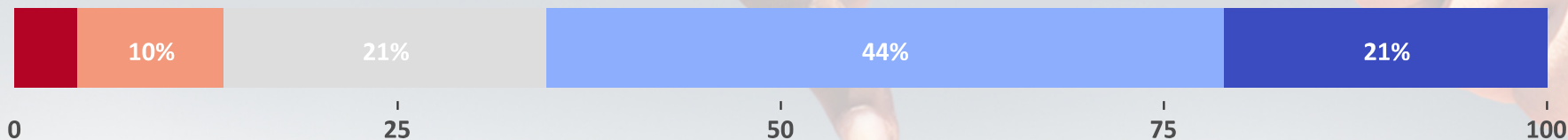


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Are we passing it on??

Youth and young adults play an important role in decision-making in my local church

Strongly Disagree Disagree I'm Not Sure Agree Strongly Agree



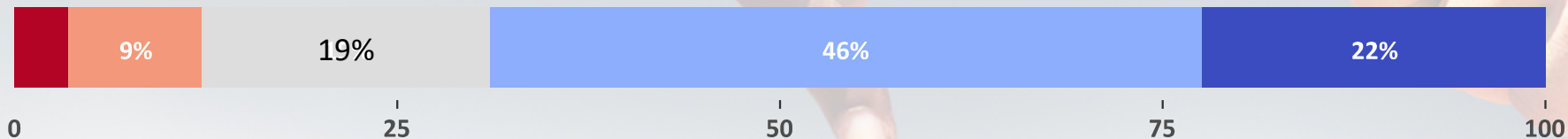
65% agree/strongly agree
Less than two-thirds

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Are we passing it on??

Youth and young adults are actively involved in carrying out the mission of my local church

Strongly Disagree Disagree I'm Not Sure Agree Strongly Agree



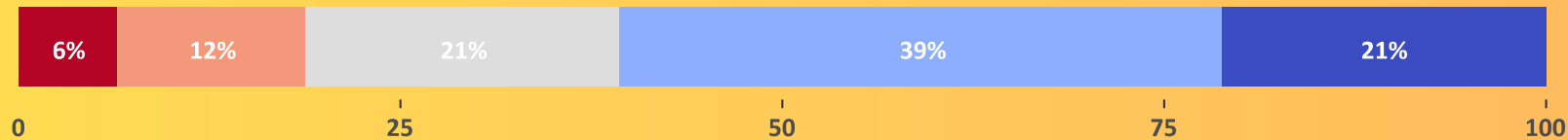
Just over two-thirds agree

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Are we passing it on??

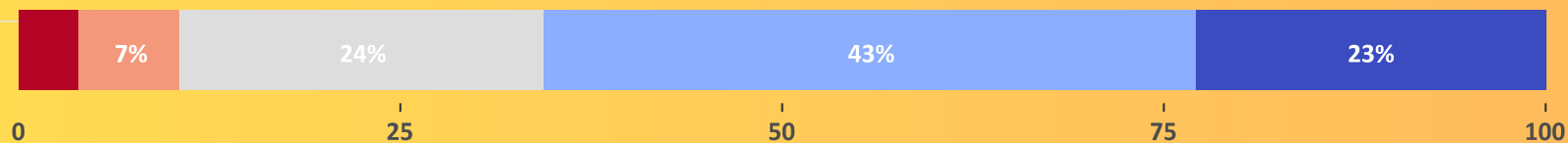
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Church Programs



My local church has a program for preparing young people to become leaders

Conference/Mission



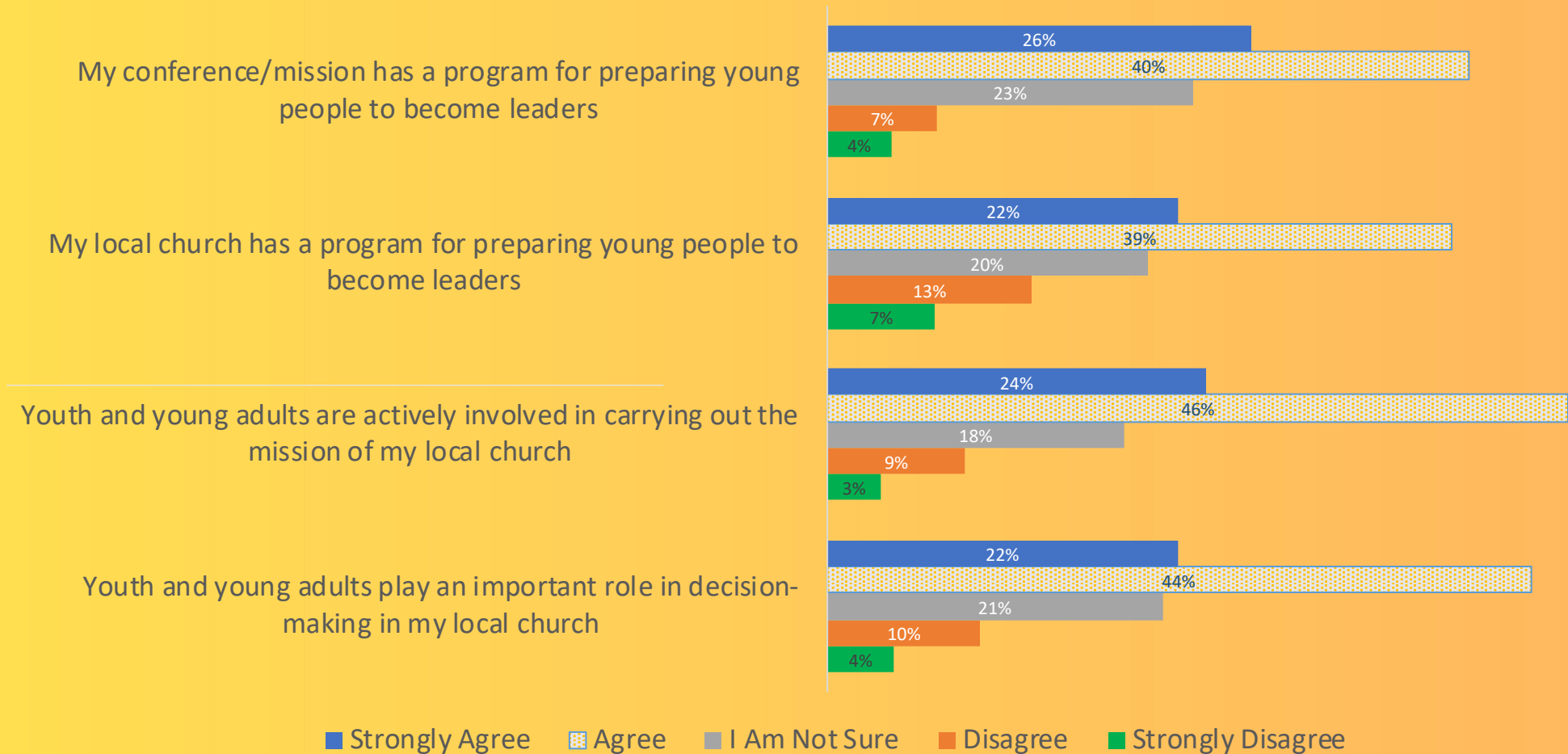
My conference/mission has a program for preparing young people to become leaders

Strongly Disagree Disagree I'm Not Sure Agree Strongly Agree

Are we passing it on??

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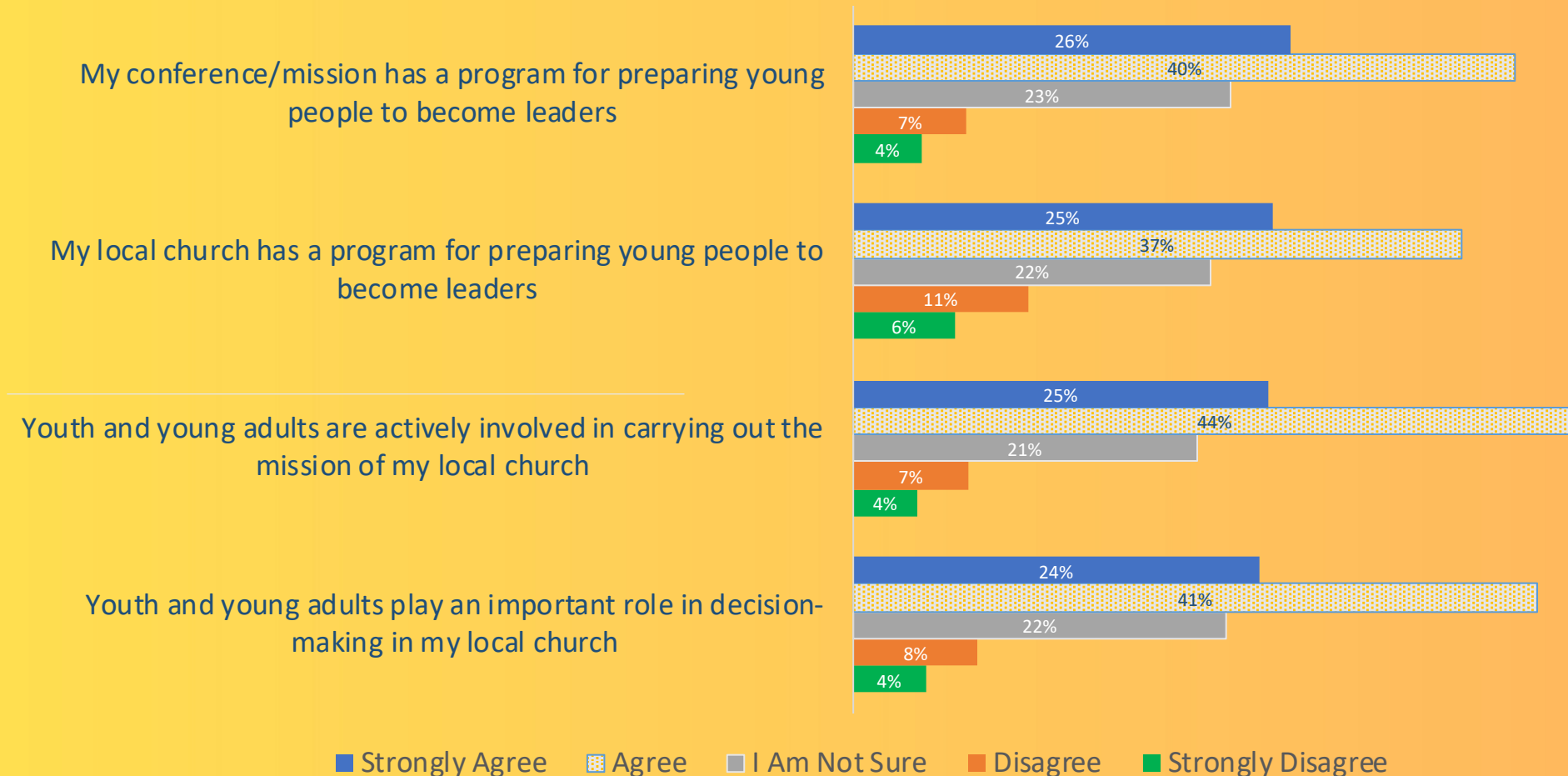
Young Adults and Senior Young Adults



Are we passing it on??

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Children and Teenagers

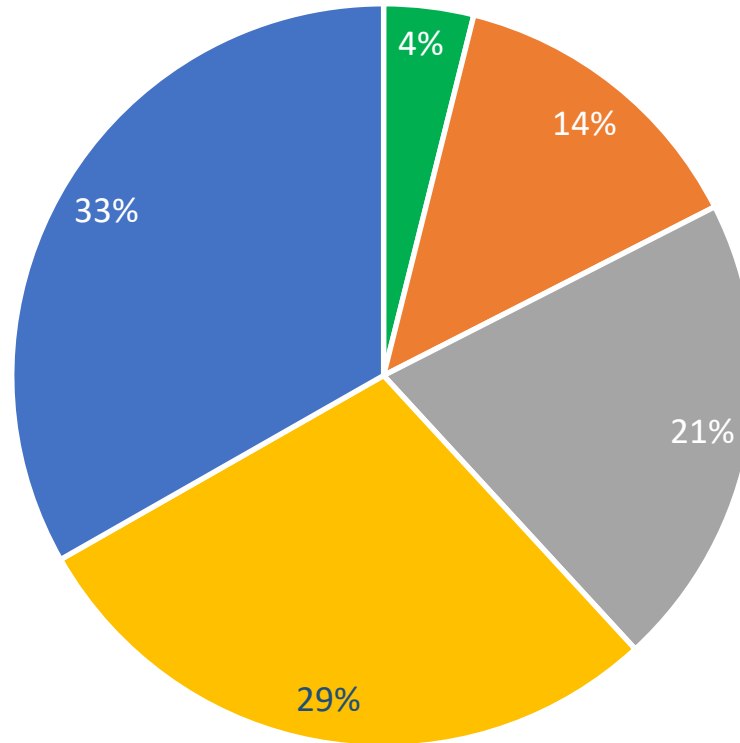


What are we passing on??



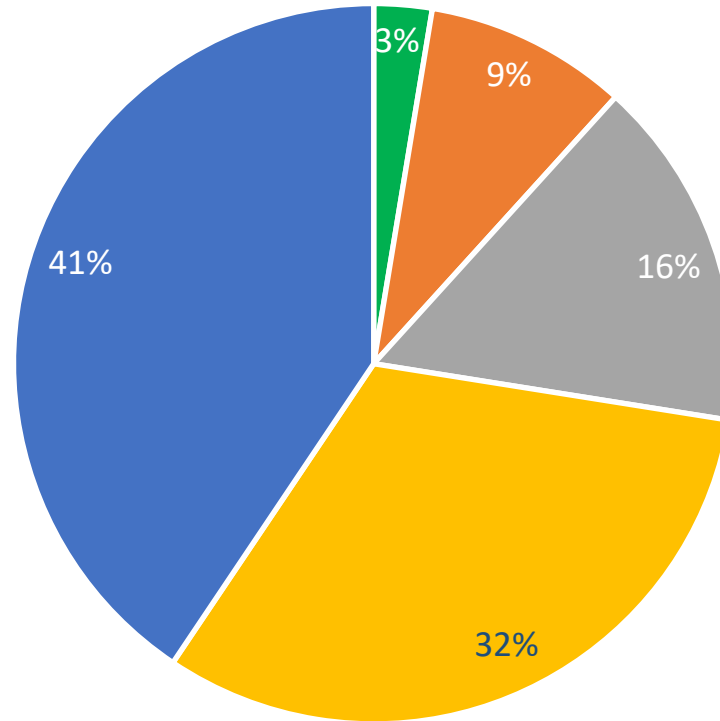
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Children and Teenagers: Reading the Bible



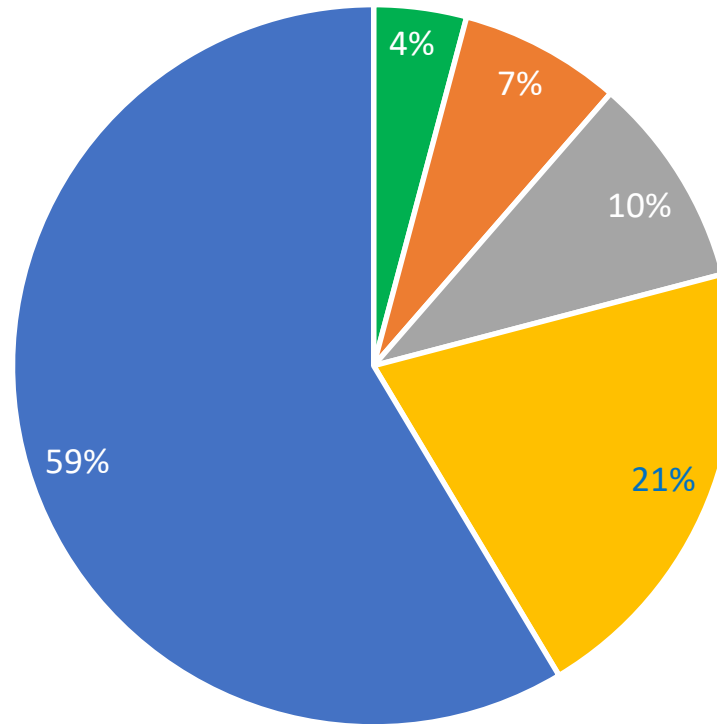
■ Never ■ Less than Once a Month ■ About Once a Week ■ More than Once a Week ■ Daily or More than Once a Day

Young Adults and Senior Young Adults: Read the Bible



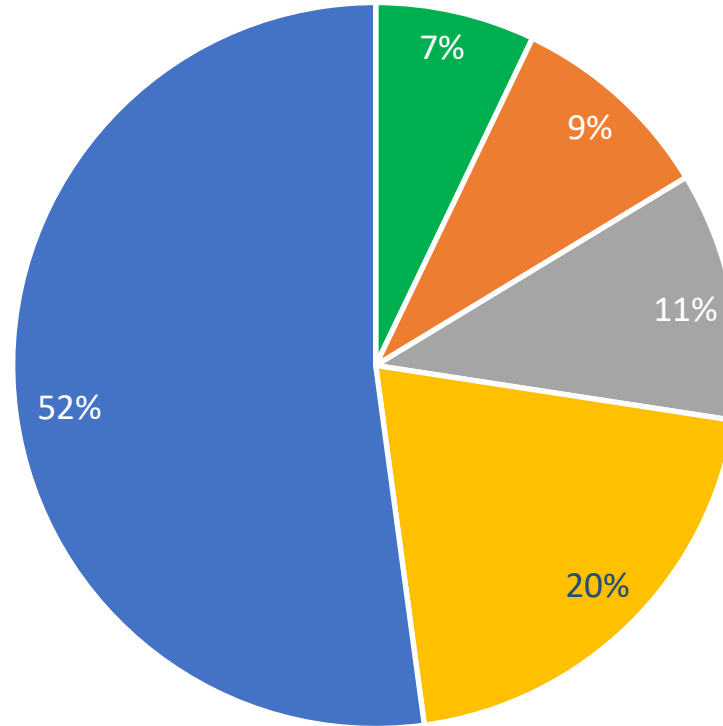
■ Never ■ Less than Once a Month ■ About Once a Week ■ More than Once a Week ■ Daily or More than Once a Day

Young Adults and Senior Young Adults: Have personal prayer



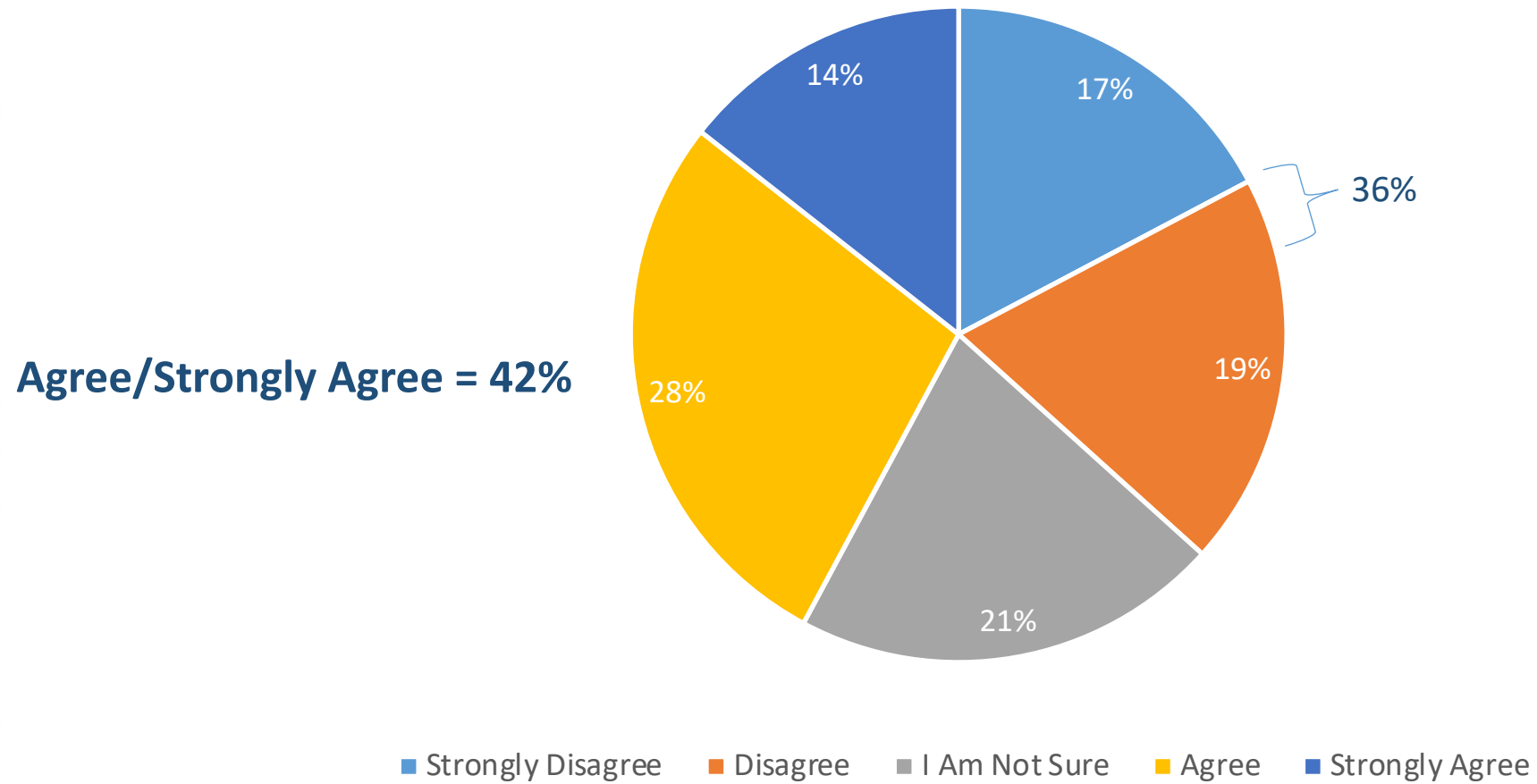
■ Never ■ Less than Once a Month ■ About Once a Week ■ More than Once a Week ■ Daily or More than Once a Day

Children and Teenagers: Personal Prayer

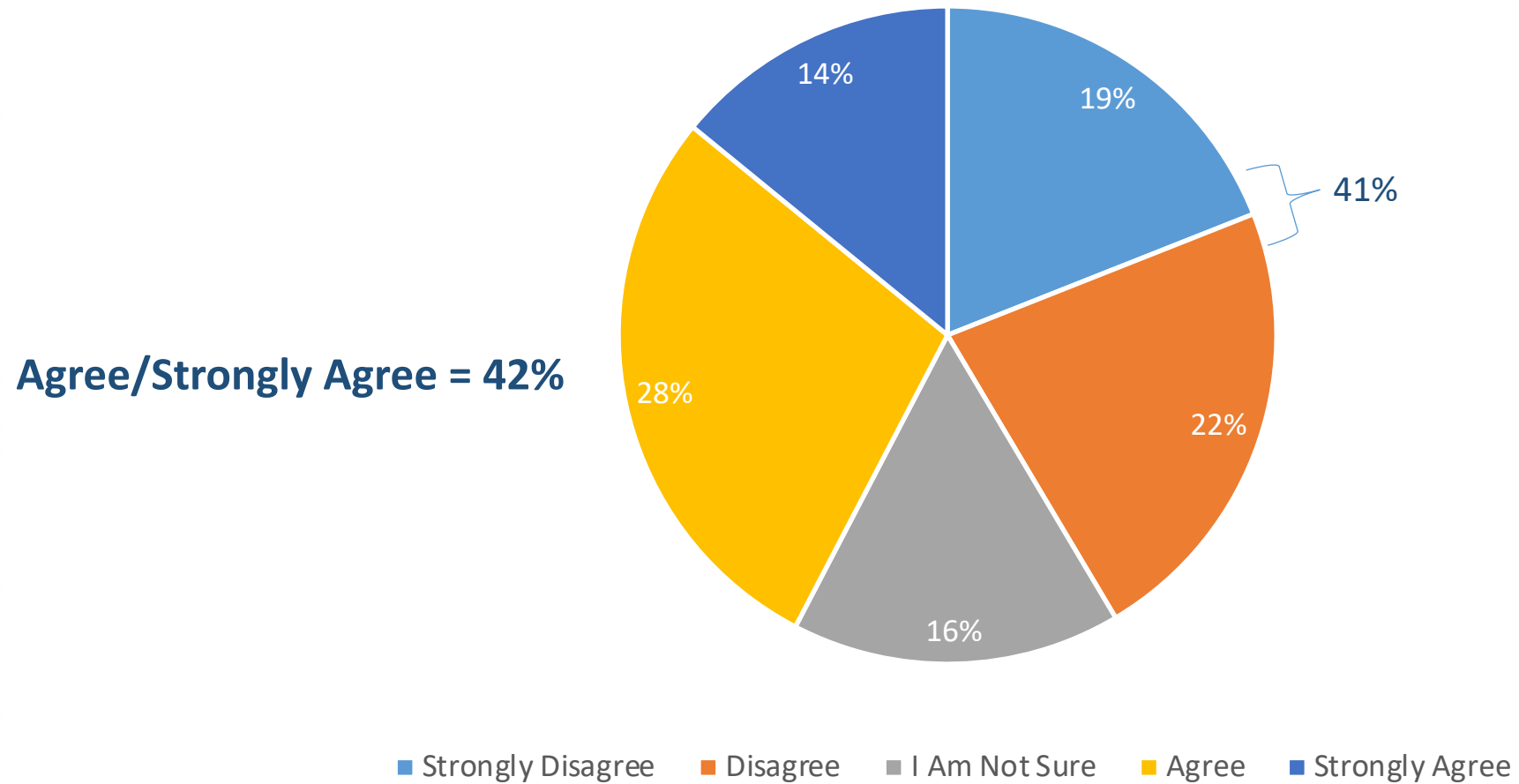


■ Never ■ Less than Once a Month ■ About Once a Week ■ More than Once a Week ■ Daily or More than Once a Day

Children and Teenagers: *Although I am religious, it does not affect my daily life*



Young Adults/Senior Young Adults: *Although I am religious, it does not affect my daily life*



Passing it on...



- Adventists are fond of saying things like:
- *Our young people aren't the future of the church, they **are** the church*
- We should be glad that they aren't, because if they were, the church wouldn't be in a good place

Passing it on...



- But children & teenagers *do* mature
- People in their 20s and 30s develop their thinking and their spiritual life patterns with experience
- (Middle-aged people do that, too)
- **People can & do change**

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If we want these data to change, we need to do better at passing on our values

A close-up photograph of two hands. On the left, a hand with dark skin is extended, palm up, with the index finger pointing towards the right. On the right, a hand with light skin is holding a blue baton, with the thumb and index finger gripping it. The baton is positioned diagonally across the frame, pointing towards the dark-skinned hand. The background is a blurred, light blue sky.

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*If our youth are to develop into the Church we want for tomorrow,
we need to intentionally involve them in leadership now*

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT



We need to do better at Passing It On