

Looking back, looking ahead



David Trim, PhD
Director of ASTR





Three areas of emphasis
Ten objectives
59 KPIs



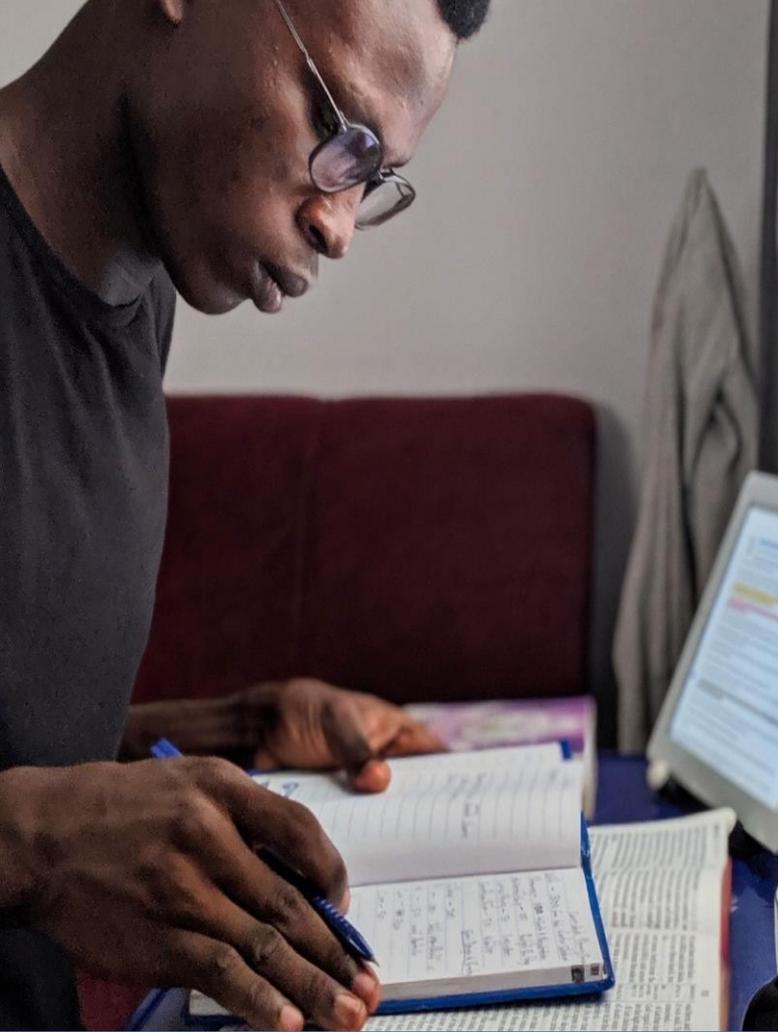
Area of emphasis #1

MISSION



Area of emphasis #2

SPIRITUAL
GROWTH



LEADERSHIP



Area of emphasis #3



HOLY SPIRIT



Area of emphasis #4

Left open for contingency or
the Holy Spirit's leading



Research 2022-2023: Global Church Member Survey 3 — n = 146,821

Margin of error = 1%



REACH
THE WORLD



Research 2016-2023:
Institutional Workers
Survey — n = 13,669



REACH
THE WORLD



Research 2022:
Global Church Leaders
Survey — n = 3,756



REACH
THE WORLD



Research 2022-2023:
Global Pastors
Survey — n = 12,760



What is revealed by the data?



What are key five- and ten-year trends?

SPIRITUAL LIFE PRACTICES

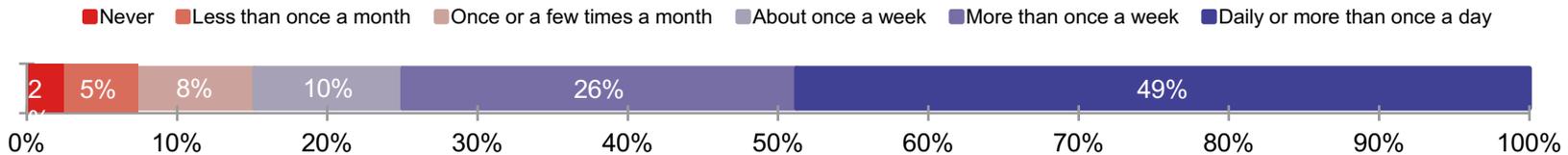


BIBLE READING

2018



2023



BIBLE READING TREND

	2002	2007	2013	2018	2023
Daily	33%	33%	42%	48%	49%
2-6 times weekly	24%	23%	32%	28%	26%
Once per week	--	--	9%	13%	10%
Weekly or more often Total	57%	56%	83%	89%	85%
Never/Less than Once per Month	--	--	9%	11%	7%



READ WRITINGS OF ELLEN WHITE

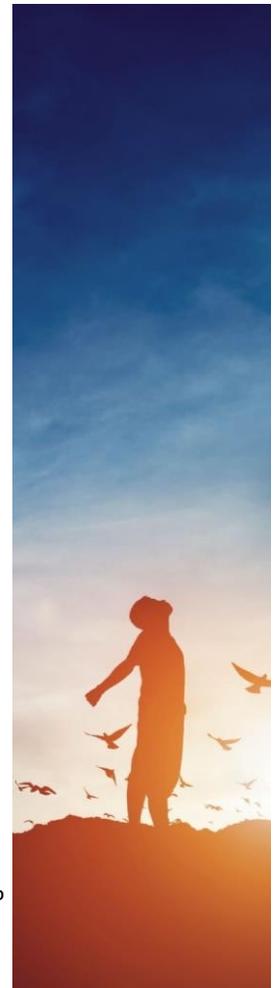
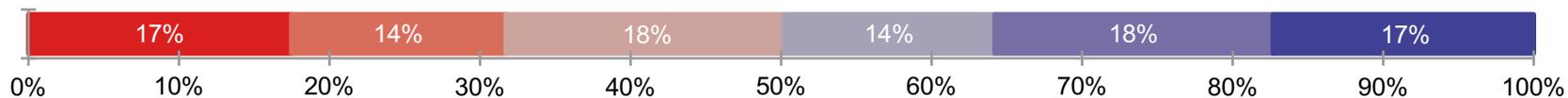
2018

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



2023

■ Never ■ Less than once a month ■ Once or a few times a month ■ About once a week ■ More than once a week ■ Daily or more than once a day



READ ELLEN WHITE TREND

	2013	2018	2023
Daily	16%	17%	17%
2-6 times weekly	21%	19%	18%
Once weekly	19%	17%	14%
Weekly or more often Total	56%	53%	49%



(HOW OFTEN MOST OF THE TIME): HAVE MORNING OR EVENING WORSHIP WITH MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY

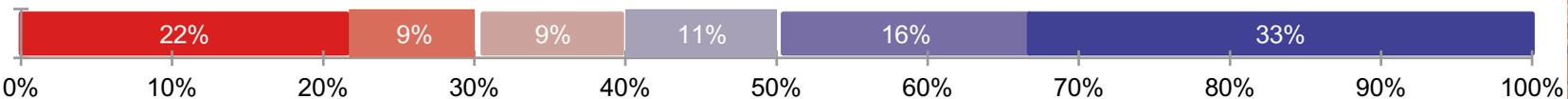
2018

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



2023

■ Never ■ Less than once a month ■ Once or a few times a month ■ About once a week ■ More than once a week ■ Daily or more than once a day



(HOW OFTEN MOST OF THE TIME): HAVE MORNING OR EVENING WORSHIP WITH MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY

	2013	2018	2023
Daily or more than daily	37%	37%	33%
Several times weekly	23%	17%	16%
Never	14%	21%	22%



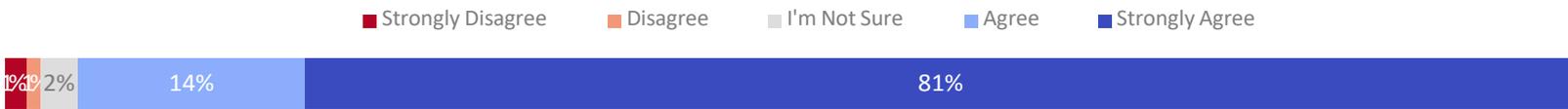
BELIEFS



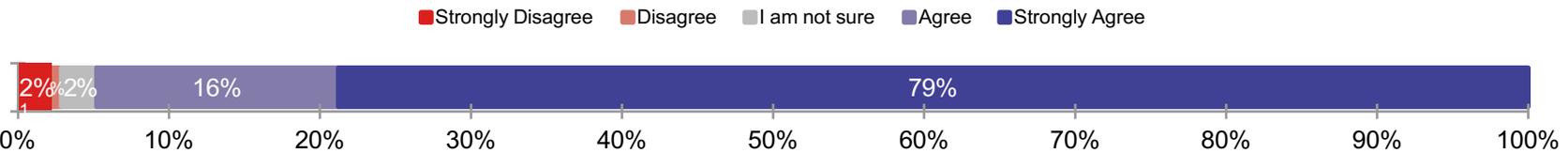
SALVATION (FB 4, FB 10, FB 19)

SALVATION IS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST ALONE

2018



2023



SABBATH (FB 6, FB 20)

THE TRUE SABBATH IS THE SEVENTH DAY (SATURDAY)

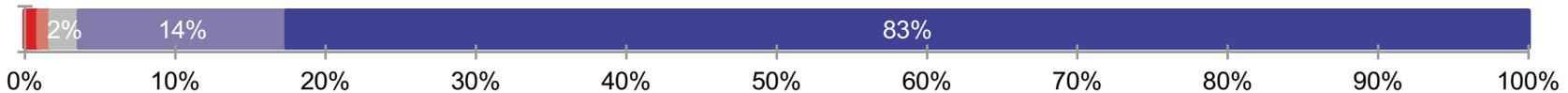
2018

Strongly Disagree Disagree I'm Not Sure Agree Strongly Agree



2023

Strongly Disagree Disagree I am not sure Agree Strongly Agree

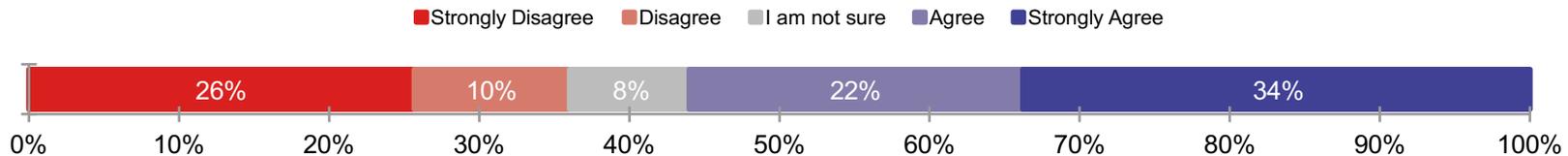


HOLY SPIRIT (FB 5)

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD'S POWER IN THE WORLD,
NOT A PERSON

2018: no question asked

2023



CREATION (FB 6)

I BELIEVE GOD CREATED THE UNIVERSE

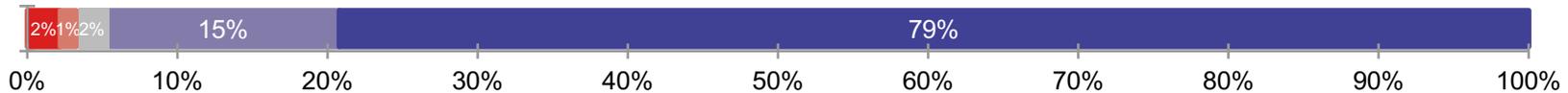
2018

Strongly Disagree Disagree I'm Not Sure Agree Strongly Agree



2023

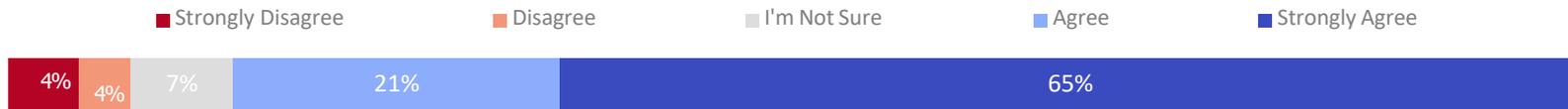
Strongly Disagree Disagree I am not sure Agree Strongly Agree



CREATION (FB 6)

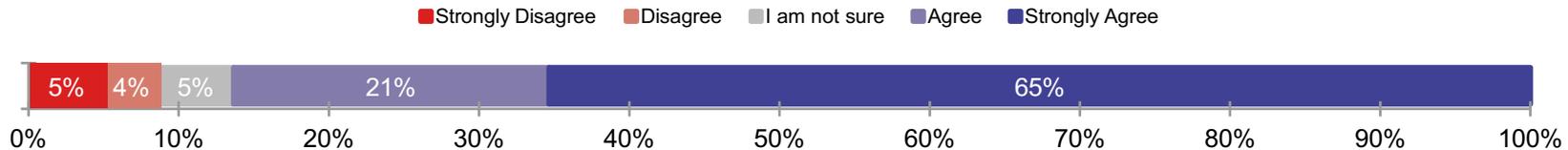
I BELIEVE GOD CREATED THE WORLD IN SIX LITERAL DAYS IN THE RELATIVELY RECENT PAST

2018



FB.CREATION: (Q42.05) Fundamental beliefs: I believe God created the world in six days of 24 hours each in the relatively recent past.

2023



CREATION (FB 6)

I BELIEVE GOD CREATED THE WORLD IN SIX LITERAL DAYS IN THE RELATIVELY RECENT PAST

	2013	2018	2023
Strongly Agree	72%	65%	65%
Agree	13%	21%	21%
Agree Total	85%	86%	86%
Strongly Disagree	9%	4%	5%

GIFT OF PROPHECY (FB 18)

ELLEN G. WHITE WAS A PROPHET

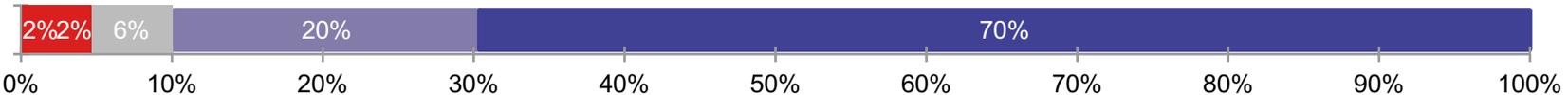
2018

■ I don't accept it ■ I have major doubts a... ■ I have some questions... ■ I accept it because t... ■ I embrace it wholehea...



2023

■ I don't accept it ■ I have major doubts about it ■ I have some questions about it ■ I accept it because the church teaches it ■ I embrace it wholeheartedly



GIFT OF PROPHECY (FB 18)

ELLEN G. WHITE WAS A PROPHET

	2013	2018	2023
Embrace Wholeheartedly	76%	72%	70%
I do not accept	4%	2%	2%

There is a slight but concerning trend

THE SANCTUARY (FB24)

CHRIST IS ACTING AS OUR ADVOCATE BEFORE
GOD IN THE HEAVENLY SANCTUARY RIGHT NOW

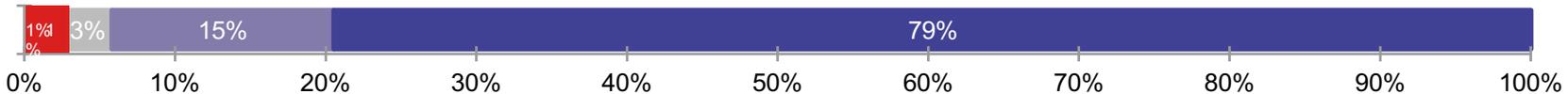
2018

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2023

■ I don't accept it ■ I have major doubts about it ■ I have some questions about it ■ I accept it because the church teaches it ■ I embrace it wholeheartedly



THE SANCTUARY (FB24)

THE INVESTIGATIVE PRE-ADVENT JUDGMENT
BEGAN IN 1844

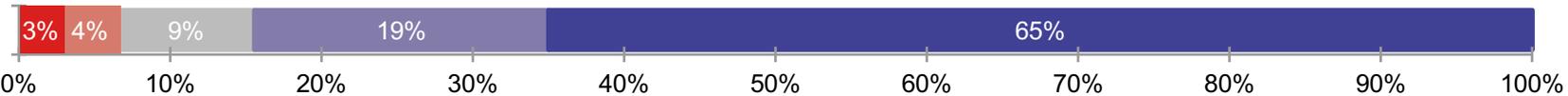
2018

■ I don't accept it ■ I have major doubts a... ■ I have some questions... ■ I accept it because t... ■ I embrace it wholehea...



2023

■ I don't accept it ■ I have major doubts about it ■ I have some questions about it ■ I accept it because the church teaches it ■ I embrace it wholeheartedly



STATE OF THE DEAD (FB 26)

WHEN PEOPLE DIE, THEIR BODILY REMAINS DECAY AND THEY HAVE NO CONSCIOUSNESS OR ACTIVITY UNTIL THEY ARE RESURRECTED

2018

Strongly Disagree Disagree I'm Not Sure Agree Strongly Agree



2023

Strongly Disagree Disagree I am not sure Agree Strongly Agree



STATE OF THE DEAD (FB 26)

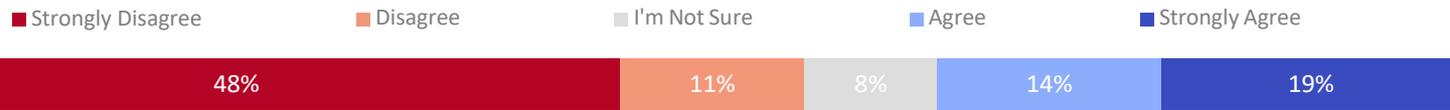
WHEN PEOPLE DIE, THEIR BODILY REMAINS DECAY AND THEY HAVE NO CONSCIOUSNESS OR ACTIVITY UNTIL THEY ARE RESURRECTED

	2013	2018	2023
Strongly Agree	79%	69%	72%
Agree	8%	20%	20%
Agree Total	87%	82%	92%
Strongly Disagree	11%	4%	3%

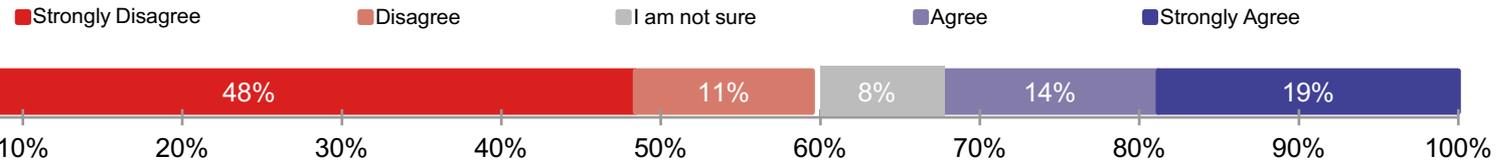
STATE OF THE DEAD (FB 26)

THE SOUL IS A SEPARATE, SPIRITUAL PART OF A PERSON AND LIVES ON AFTER DEATH

2018



2023



33% agree/strongly agree globally

But there is a positive side to some of these findings—we are having these are problems because we are growing (and particularly growing among non-Christian people)!





There is more work that needs
to be done discipling those
who have been baptized.

I Will Go 2025–2030





Four strategic priorities



Communion with God

Identity in Christ





Unity through the Holy Spirit



Mission for All



21 Measurable Goals



IWILL GO 2025-2030



This is currently a **draft plan**. We invite suggestions for improvements, which should be submitted over the next ten months. A **final version** will be presented to **Annual Council 2024** for approval.

