

Summary

# CHRISTIAN MINISTERS NEEDS ASSESSMENT & PERCEPTIONS SURVEY – PILOT STUDY Jan-July 2021

15 August 2021



## Objective of the Pilot study/Dipstick survey

To assess the needs and perceptions of Christian Ministers and Leaders in order to jointly develop strategies that will drive unity in the body of Christ, in order to prepare the Church for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. The inputs provided will be used in designing the quantitative survey that will roll out nationally, continentally and maybe regionally in a global context, God permitting. Of immediacy, the inputs here will be used to identify the focus areas of the strategic planning seminars, the overall ministry strategies, ultimately the intended annual Global Christian Unity conference plans.

### Sample breakdown (Provinces):

41 (78%) North West Province  
9 (17%) Gauteng  
2 (4%) Mpumalanga  
1 (2%) Western Cape

### Sample breakdown (Gender)

Males: (68%) 36  
Females: (32%) 17

### Sample breakdown (Racial profile)

Africans: 49  
Whites: 2  
Coloureds: 1  
Indians: 1

### Methodology:

Combination of online, telephonic and physically administered questionnaire.

### Challenges experienced:

Required a great deal of follow up with limited resources and amidst frequent changes in the lockdown policies of government which affected ministers' responsiveness.

# Total Responses (Dipstick for Pilot strategy **53** Christian ministers

Disclaimer- The determination of whether the respondents sampled were true ministers of the Christian Gospel or not was not the subject of this survey, neither is it the assignment of Global Christian Unity Ministries



# Which of the 5-fold ministry do you operate in e.g. apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

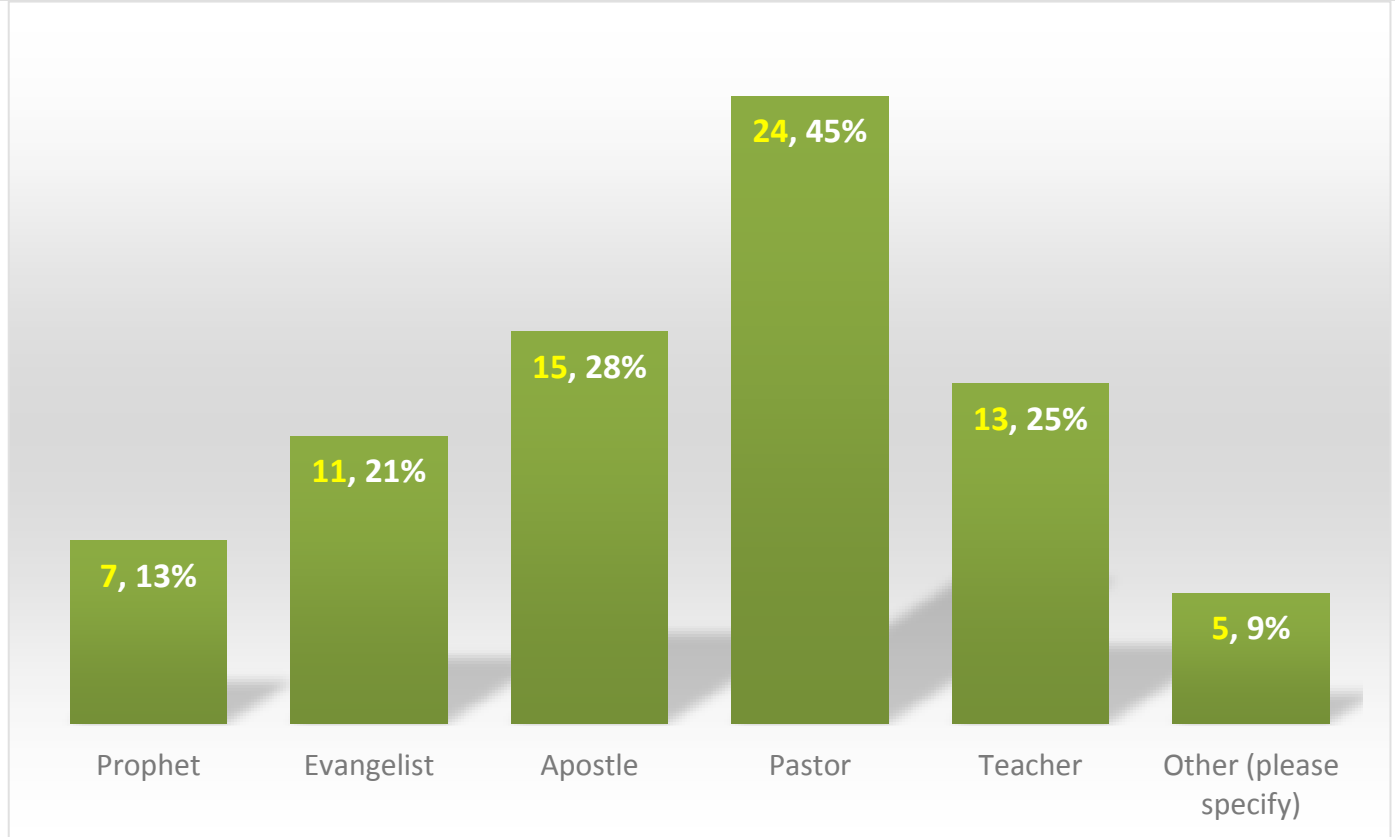
## Comment:

1. Most of the respondents were Pastors(45%),
2. Apostles (28%)
3. Preachers/Teachers (25%),
4. Evangelists(21%).
5. Few were the Prophets (13%)
6. Other (9%)

## Other entailed:

- Charity
- Archdeaconry
- Bishop

Pastoral ministry was dominant in this sample. Note: The sample size and profile is not representative of the population.



# Which of the following best describes your category of ministry?

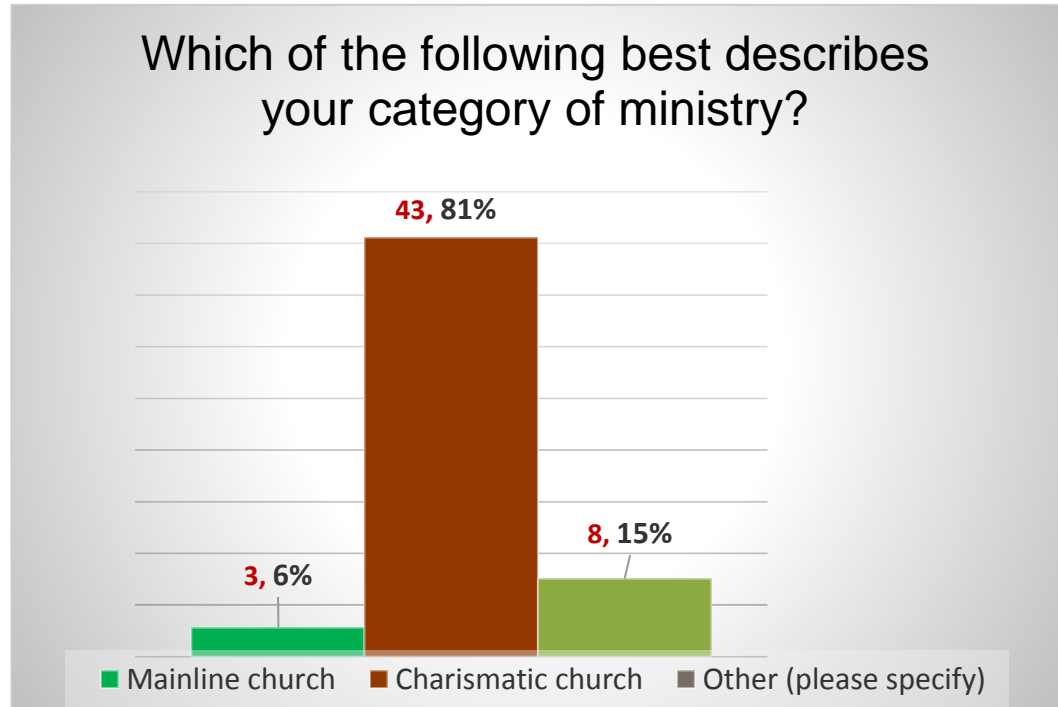
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

## Comment:

Most respondents (81%) described their ministry as charismatic, whilst 6% described their ministry as mainline.

The **Other** category (15%) described their ministries as one of the following:

1. Administrative
2. Pentecostal
3. Deliverance
4. In transit
5. Mixed-Mainline and Charismatic
6. Training & Education
7. Frontline
8. Word Based

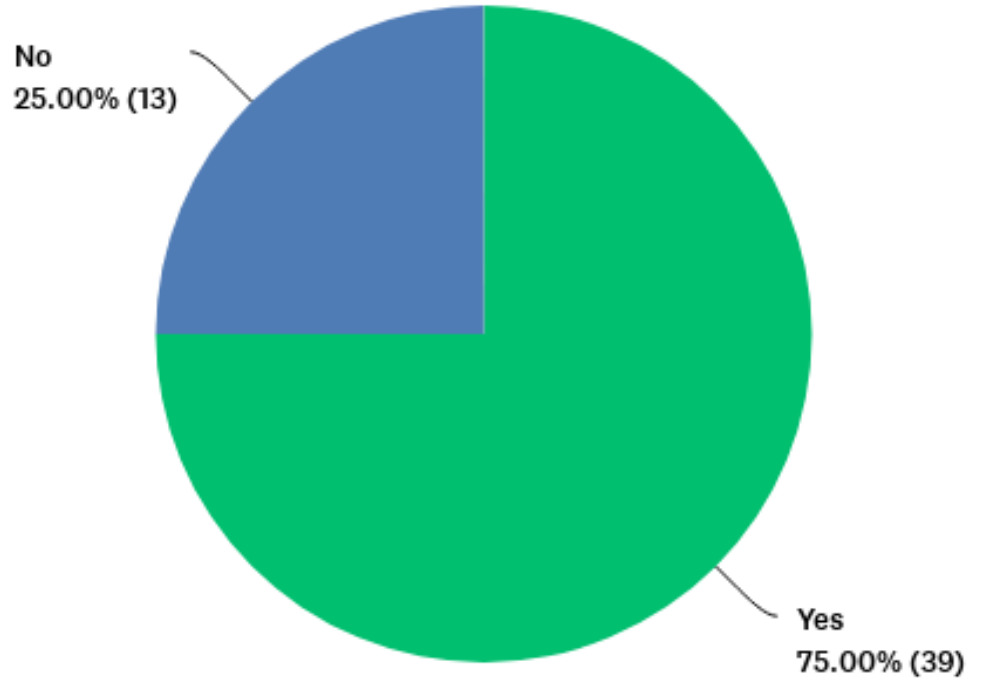


# Are you affiliated to any Christian network/pastors' forum? Note: this is to strengthen support and promotion of as many Christian networks or forums as possible.

Answered: 52 Skipped: 1

## Comment:

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Greater Rustenburg Pastors Forum   | 23 |
| No affiliation   | 13 |
| Affiliations mentioned (formal, informal, incl. internal church forums): | 28 |



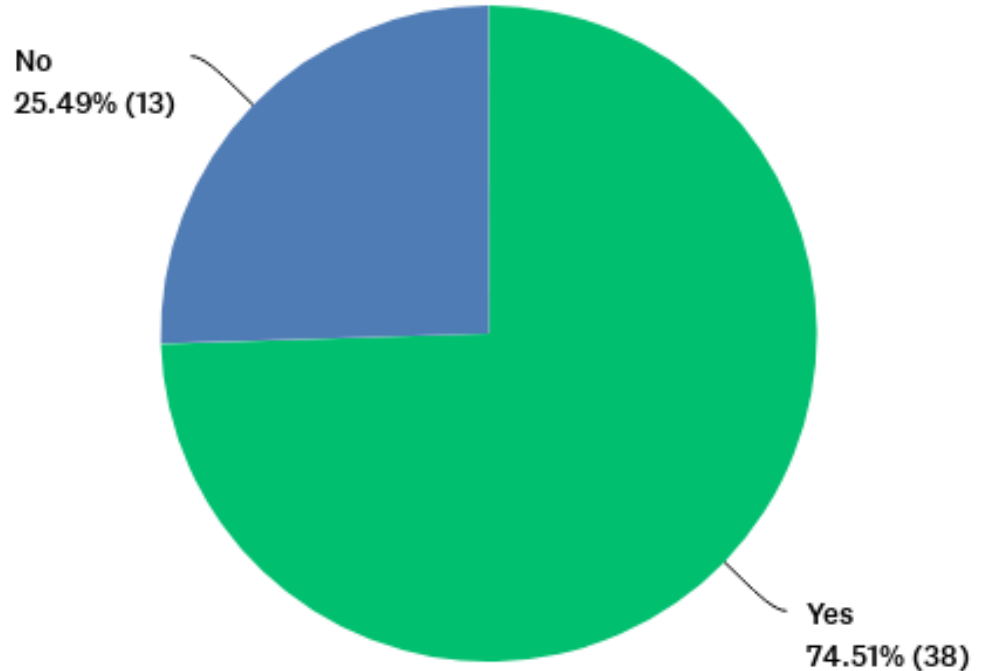
# Did you attend formal training at an accredited bible college?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

**Comment:** Most ministers (74%) said they had obtained a formal qualification in ministry.

## Q11: If yes, please name the bible college?

Ministers mentioned 31 bible colleges where they obtained their bible qualifications, including in-house church related ones. Some colleges were accredited whilst others were not.

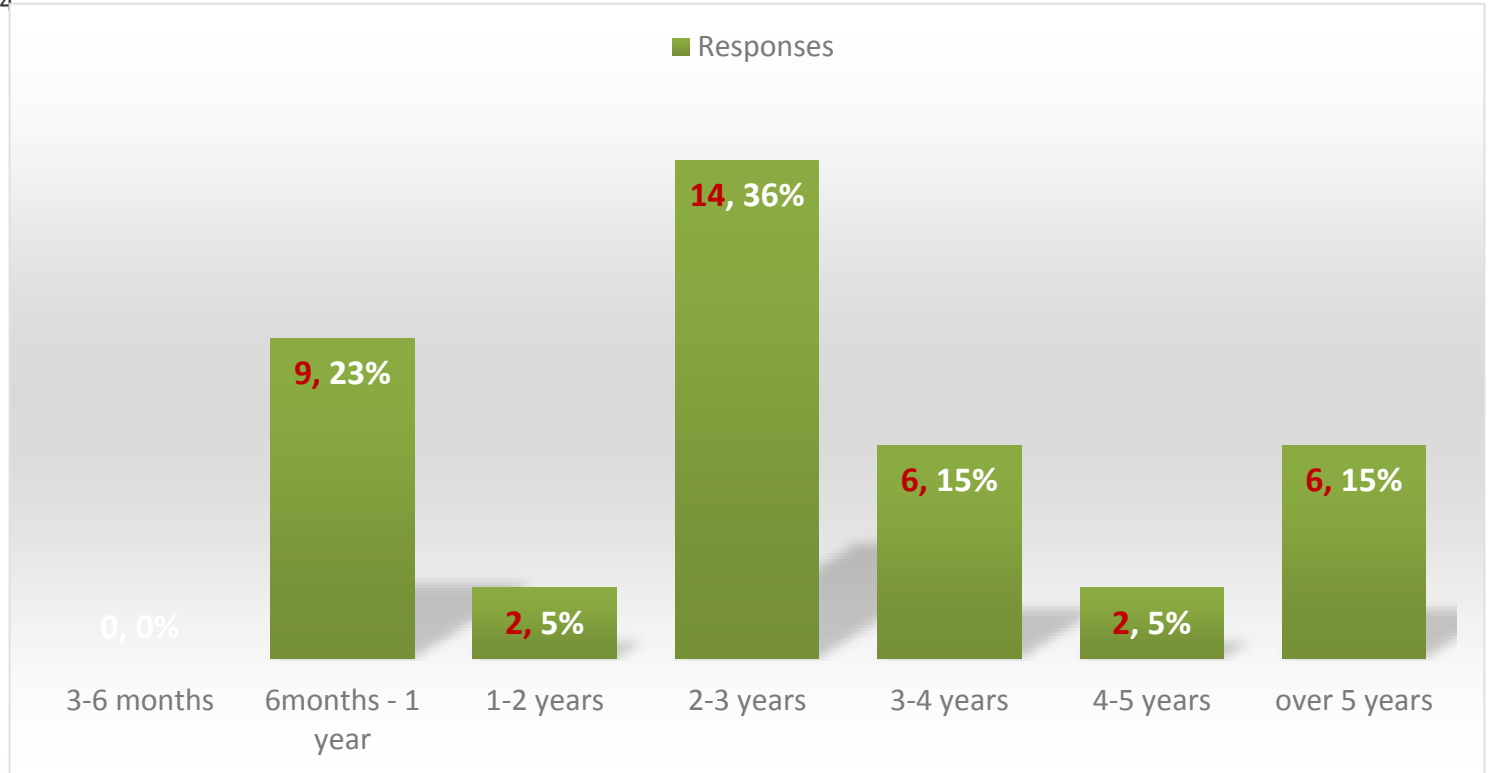


# How many years was your bible college training?

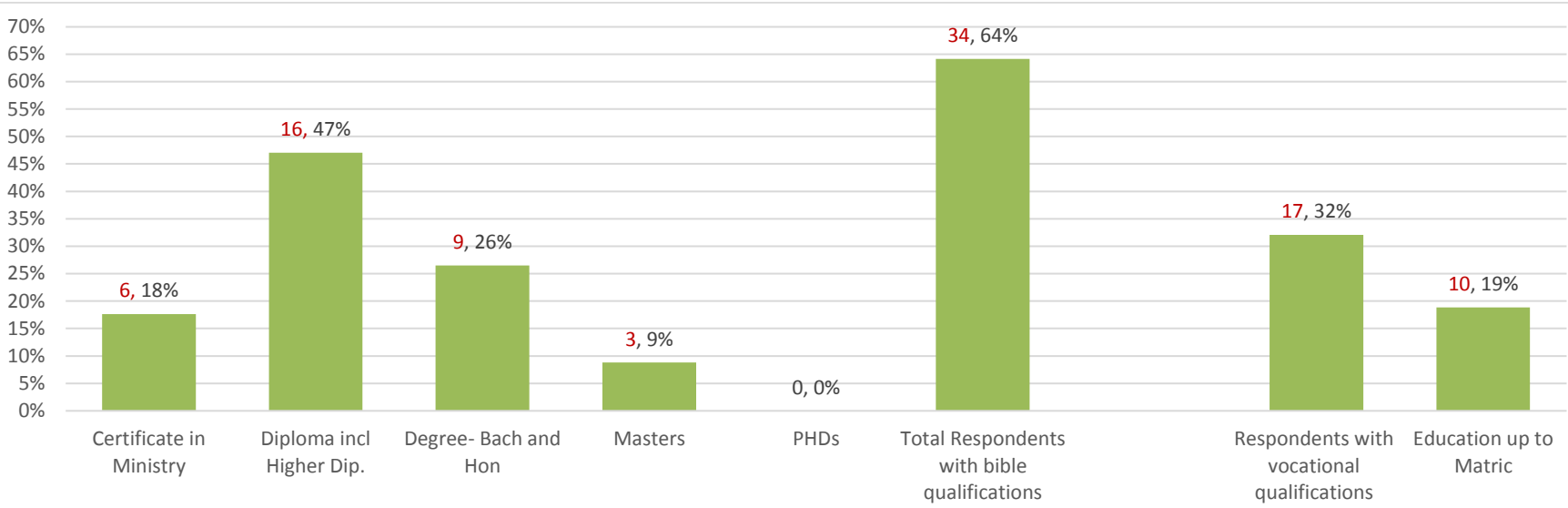
Answered: 39 Skipped: 14

**Comment:** Most (36%) of the respondents studied for a bible qualification for 2=3 years, followed by those who did short courses (23%) that took 6months to 1 year.

A significant number (32%) attended for over 3 years including 15% that studied for over 5 years.



# What bible college qualification did you obtain, if at all?



**Comment:** Of the 38 that attended, 34 said they obtained a bible college qualification. Most of them (47%) of those that went to bible college obtained Diplomas.



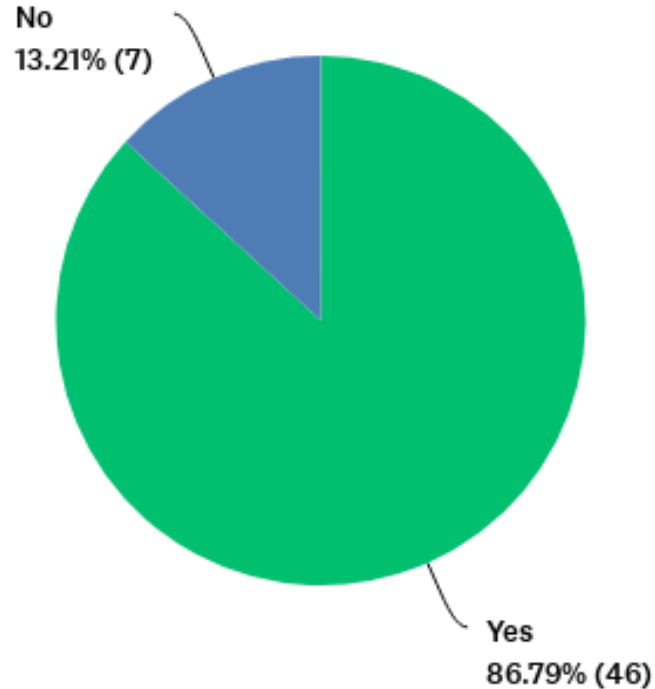


# Were you also ordained as a minister at your church?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

**Comment:** Most of the respondents(87%) were also ordained at their church.

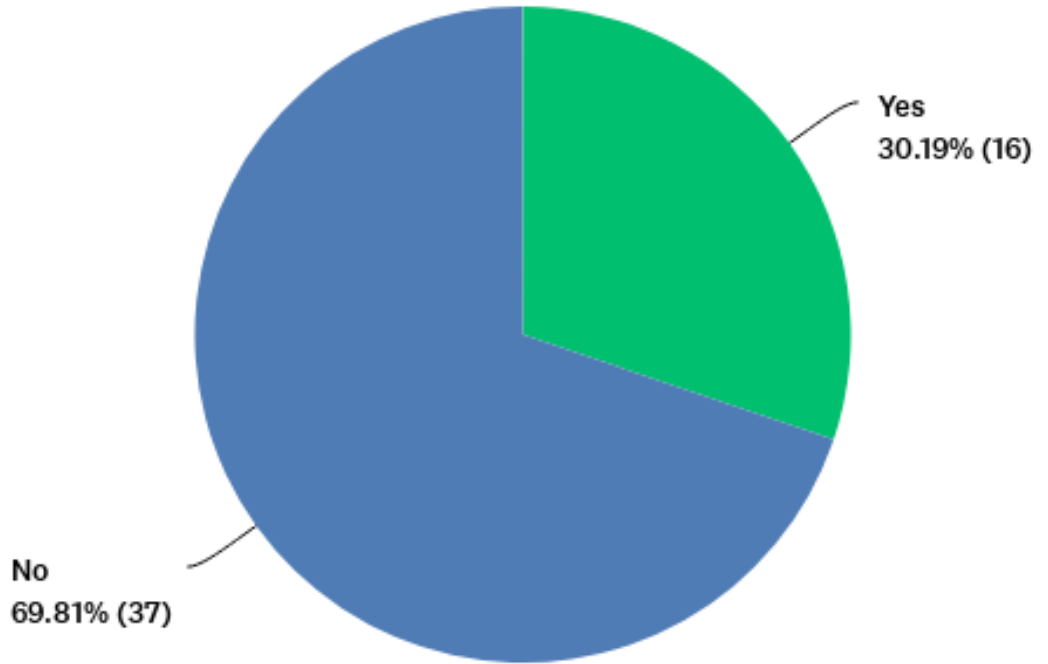
Those that were not were either called or are leaders, or in transition.



# Do you have a ministry website?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

**Comment:** Most respondents (70%) did not have a ministry website.

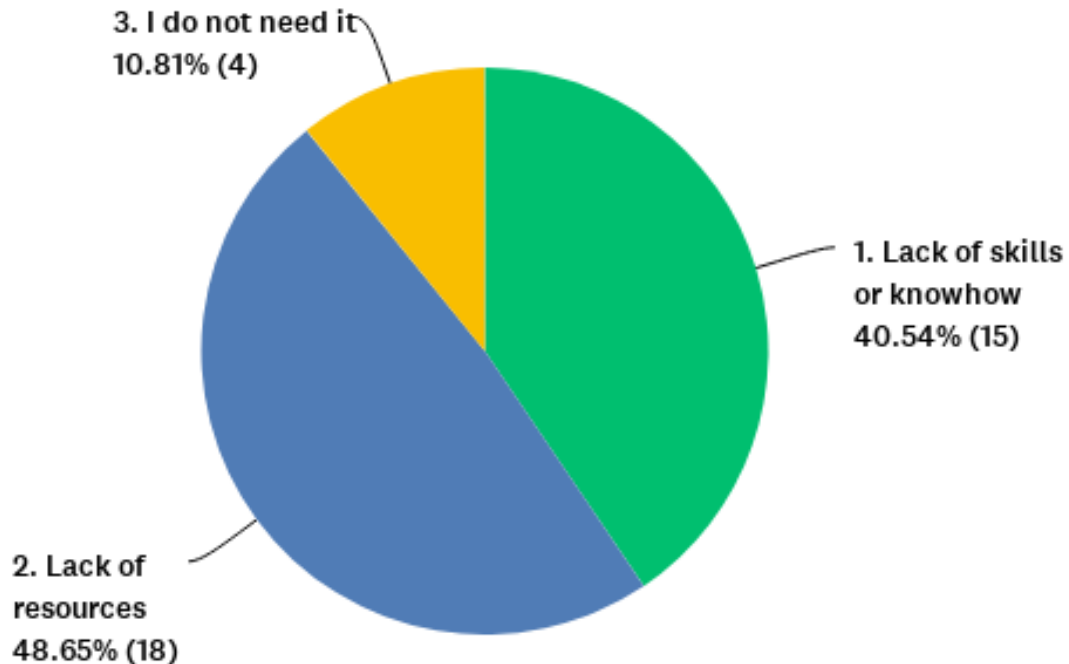


# If no website, what are the reasons for not having a website for your ministry?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 16

**Comment:** Over 80% said they did not have a website due to lack of skills or resources.

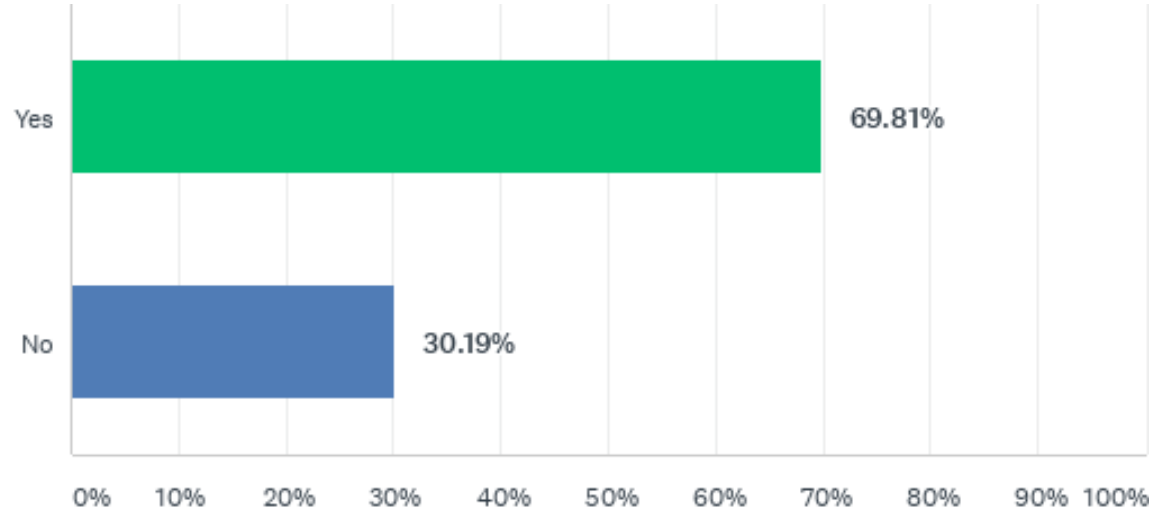
It would need to be found out whether they need it or not? However, 11% said they did not need it.



# Do you have a FaceBook page?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

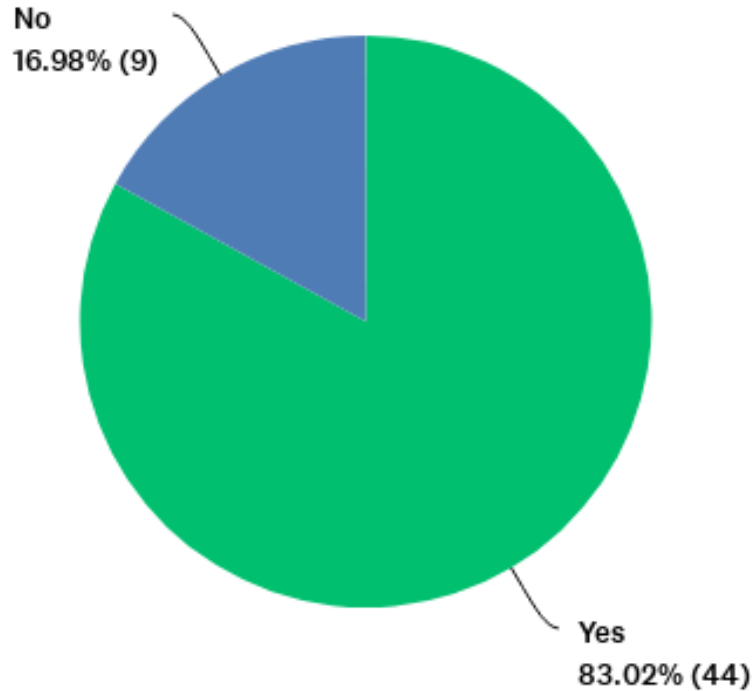
**Comment:** Almost 70% had a FB page, which means they needed and valued an online presence.



# Are you experiencing any personal or ministry challenges?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

**Comment:** 83% (44 respondents) said they were experiencing personal or ministry related challenges.



# What do you think is the source/cause or reasons for the challenges you are experiencing?

Answered: 47  
Skipped: 6

**Comment:**  
Various reasons were cited as the source/cause for their challenges.

| Responses   | %           | No.       |
|---|-------------|-----------|
| Witchcraft  | 2%          | 1         |
| Unstable members  | 2%          | 1         |
| Mixed spiritual callings  | 2%          | 1         |
| Poor ministry location/competition from foreigners                | 3%          | 2         |
| Natural causes e.g. bad eating habits                             | 3%          | 2         |
| Personal sin/lack of spiritual maturity/lack knowledge            | 7%          | 4         |
| Personal lack of training/ ministry mngt skills                   | 7%          | 4         |
| Because of Christ-not exempted/searching for God's will in prayer | 8%          | 5         |
| Lockdown restrictions on church gatherings/changes in stipends    | 10%         | 6         |
| Congregants not giving due to financial lack & misperceptions     | 13%         | 8         |
| Lack of resources/church premises/support/guidance                | 13%         | 8         |
| Generational curses/foundational covenants/dedications            | 15%         | 9         |
| Not stated/unknown  | 15%         | 9         |
| <b>Total responses</b>  | <b>100%</b> | <b>60</b> |



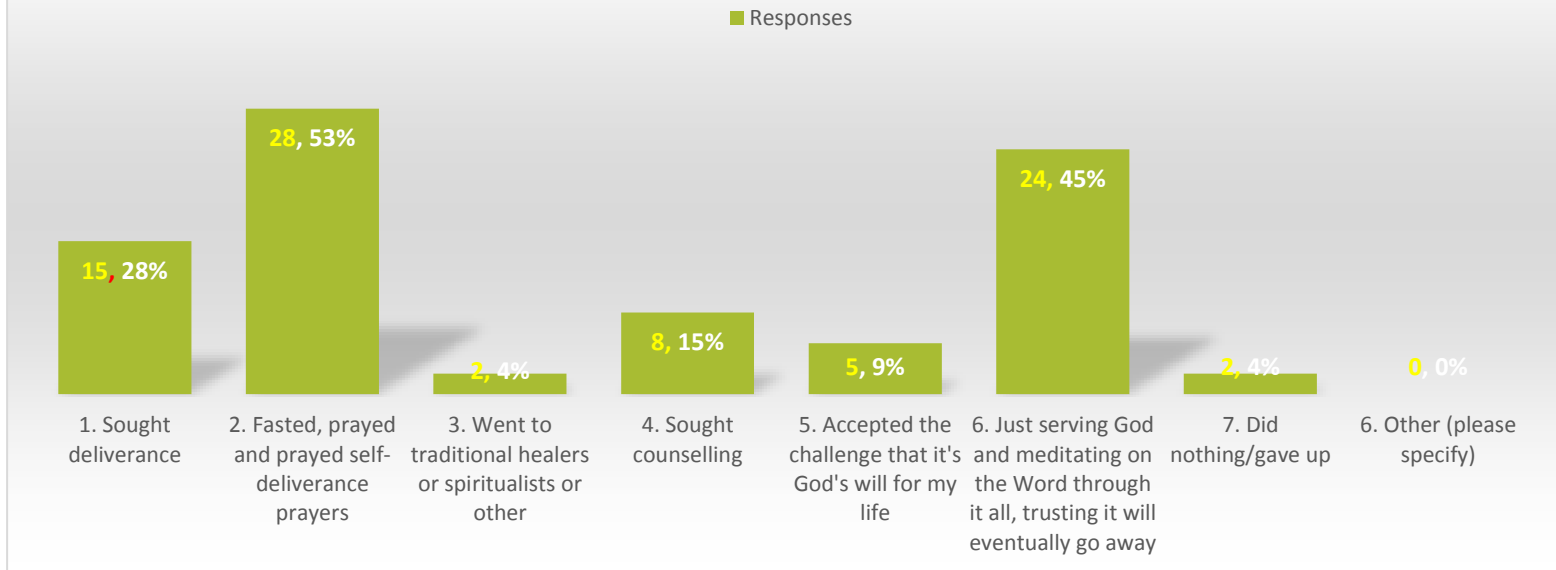
# What, if at all, have you tried to do to overcome the challenges you mentioned?

Answered 47

## Comment:

Many are practicing the word but a lot more can be done spiritually, physically, materially.

## What, if at all, have you tried to do to overcome the challenges you mentioned?

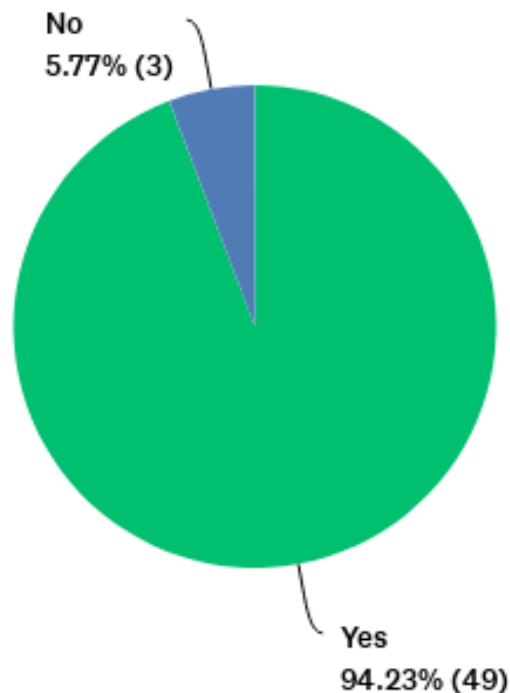


# Do you think that a born again Christian or any minister of the Gospel can need deliverance?

Answered: 52 Skipped: 1

## Comment:

93% (49 of 53) of the respondents said that a born-again Christian can need deliverance.





# Please give reasons for/ against the need for deliverance of born again Christians

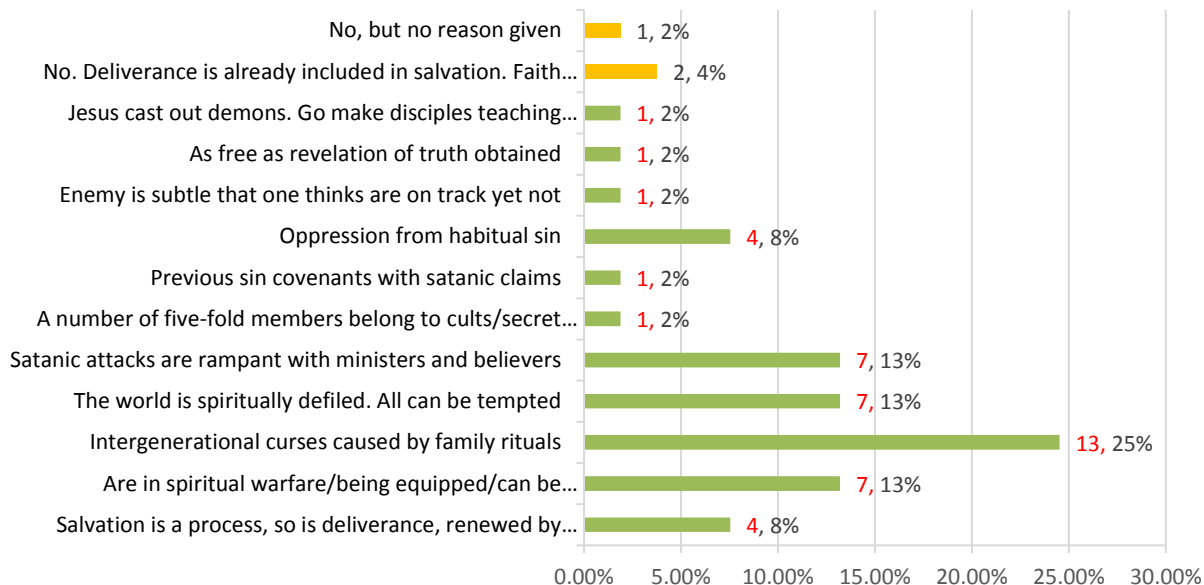
Answered 50, Skipped 3

## Comment:

Most respondents gave scriptural reasons for why or why not Christians needed deliverance.

The differences in perspectives about deliverance seemed to stem from different revelations and maybe influenced by different teachings and personal experiences.

## Q28 Perceptions: Reasons for/ against Deliverance ministration



# Please give reasons why or why not deliverance

49 answered, 4 not stated

## Comment:

The largest explanations given in support of deliverance had to do with intergenerational curses the source which had to do with ignorant family rituals, weapons of our warfare being against spiritual hosts of wickedness, the world being spiritually defiled, satanic attacks, salvation being a process (not a single event), oppression from habitual sin.

| Q28 Reasons stated for/ against Deliverance ministration                    |             |           |
|---|-------------|-----------|
| ANSWER CHOICES  | %           | No.       |
| Salvation is a process, so is deliverance, renewed by the word              | 8%          | 4         |
| Are in spiritual warfare/being equipped/can be attacked/ faith challenged   | 13%         | 7         |
| Intergenerational curses caused by family rituals                           | 25%         | 13        |
| The world is spiritually defiled. All can be tempted                        | 13%         | 7         |
| Satanic attacks are rampant with ministers and believers                    | 13%         | 7         |
| A number of five-fold members belong to cults/secret societies              | 2%          | 1         |
| Previous sin covenants with satanic claims                                  | 2%          | 1         |
| Oppression from habitual sin  | 8%          | 4         |
| Enemy is subtle that one thinks are on track yet not                        | 2%          | 1         |
| As free as revelation of truth obtained                                     | 2%          | 1         |
| Jesus cast out demons. Go make disciples teaching everything command        | 2%          | 1         |
| No. Deliverance is already included in salvation. Faith in Word. New creati | 4%          | 2         |
| No, but no reason given   | 2%          | 1         |
| Yes. but no reason given  | 6%          | 3         |
| <b>Total respondents</b>  | <b>100%</b> | <b>53</b> |



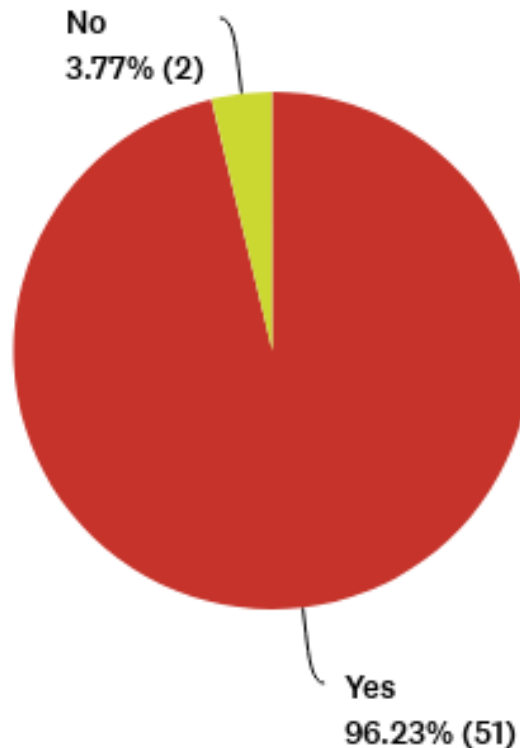
**Q30: Probable Christian Unity Programs and Projects There's a plan, God willing, to host the First Annual Global Christian Unity Ministers and Leaders' Conference, 4th Qtr 2021 to empower Ministers of the Gospel during the end times. Inputs from this survey would assist to meet the needs of delegates. Would you be interested in attending the conference?**

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

**Comment:**

Most respondents (96%) said they would be interested in attending the conference.

The one who would not said they would not be available, whilst the other said maybe next time.



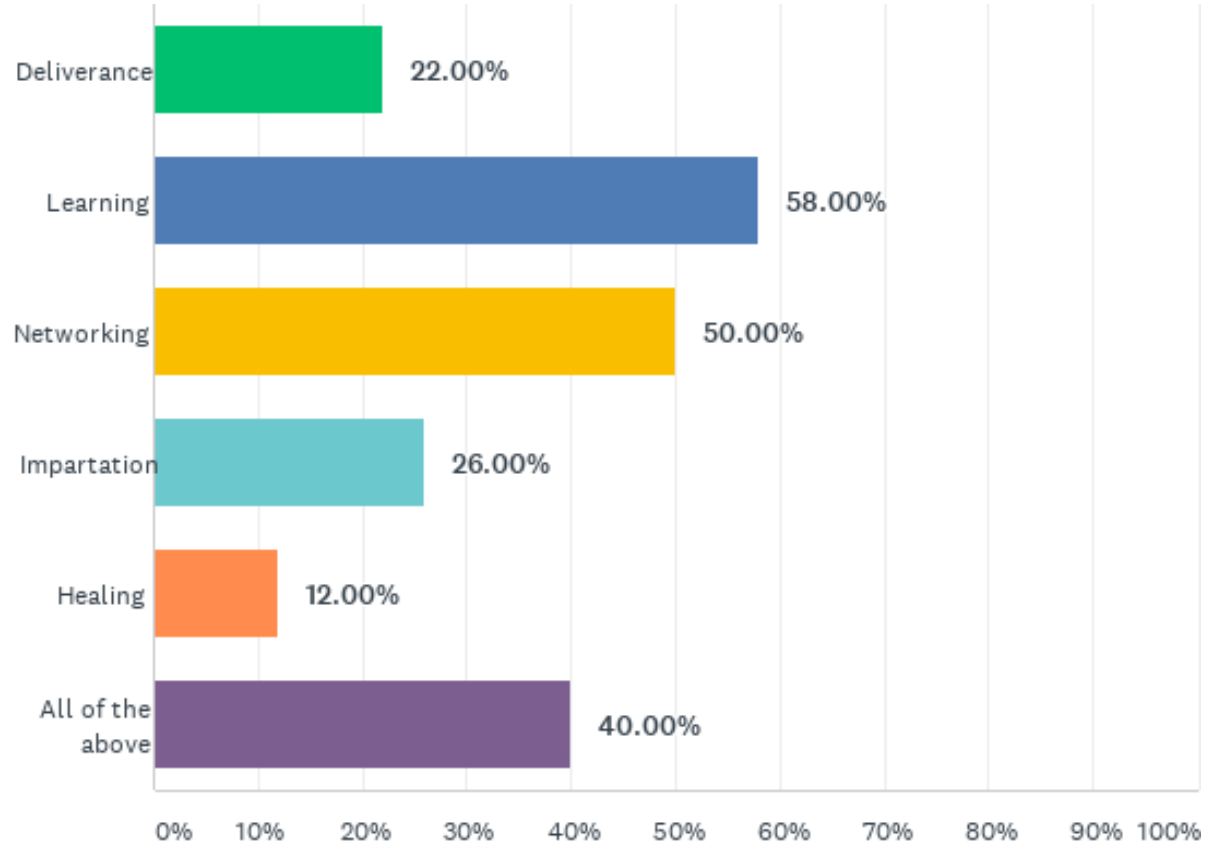
# Q31: If yes, what would you expect to benefit from such a Conference?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 3

## Comment:

Most (58%) said they expected to learn, whilst 50% mentioned the expectation to network, 40% expected all of the prompted reasons, whilst a combined 60% expected deliverance, impartation and healing.

This helps in planning for the conference.



## 31.(Cont.)Other/additional expectations respondents had about the conference

### Comment:

These responses were submitted under 'Other' expectations in addition to the prompted responses.

This helps in planning for the conference.

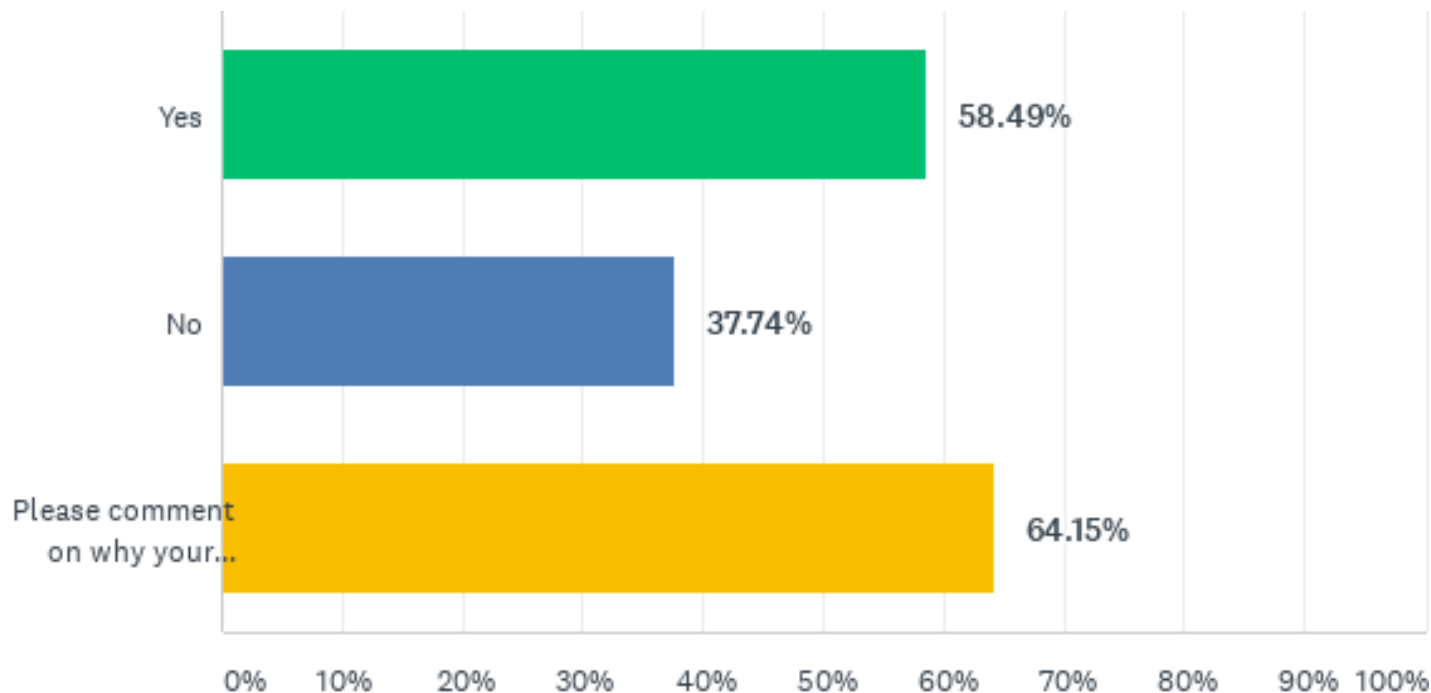
1. Make a contribution to unity
2. Complete unity of the body of Christ
3. Skills development and partnerships
4. Spiritual growth
5. Encouragement
6. Knowing precisely how not to take over from the Holy Spirit
7. How not to "own" the church as it's happening now
8. Skills to lead *ibandla* according to the Holy Spirit
9. Everything God will be doing
10. Oneness
11. Networking/ Building Relationships



## Q32: Is there any specific role you would like to take in such a conference considering whatever gifts God has given you?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

**Comment:**  
58% volunteered a  
role in the  
conference.



## 32.b. Please comment on why your preference

22 out of 31 commented.

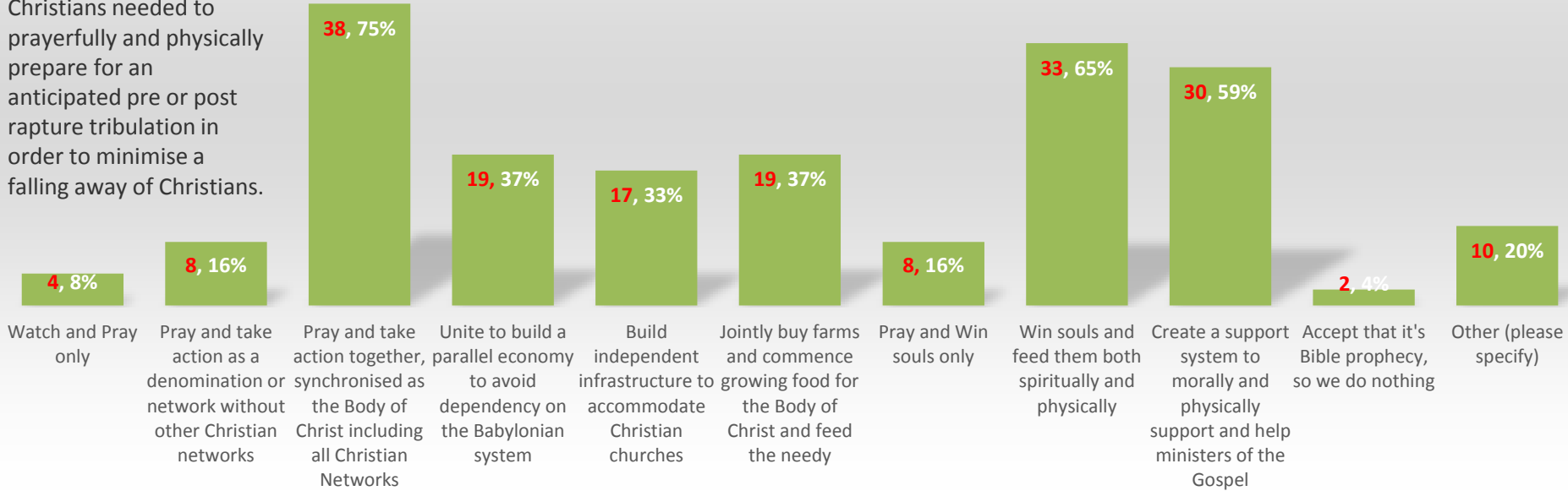
| <b>Q33 Roles volunteered for the Conference (CONFIDENTIAL)</b>       |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Responses</b>   | <b>No.</b> |
| Facilitation of /Panel Discussion on any Religious / Christian Topic | 2          |
| Projects initiations/strategy/planning                               | 3          |
| Prophetic utterances   | 1          |
| Worship  | 1          |
| Sharing experiences  | 1          |
| Presenter on discipleship  | 1          |
| Teaching/discipleship training                                       | 3          |
| Intercessory team for the Conference.                                | 4          |
| Networking many different ways                                       | 1          |
| Support/Support with deliverance of fellow ministers                 | 2          |
| Awareness on satanic attacks   | 1          |
| Church Paradigm shift  | 1          |
| Program Director   | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>22</b>  |



**In light of the great deception, pestilences, famines, plagues, the hyped Covid-19 and the likelihood of a mandatory vaccine, the plans of the One World Order, Christians need to prepare to cope during great persecution. What do you think should be done as a united Body of Christ, to minimise a falling away and hearts going cold, win and retain souls?**

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

**Comment:** There was general consensus that Christians needed to prayerfully and physically prepare for an anticipated pre or post rapture tribulation in order to minimise a falling away of Christians.





# Some Christian ministers have suggested that a Christian culture needs to be developed, to help unite the body of Christ. Do you agree?

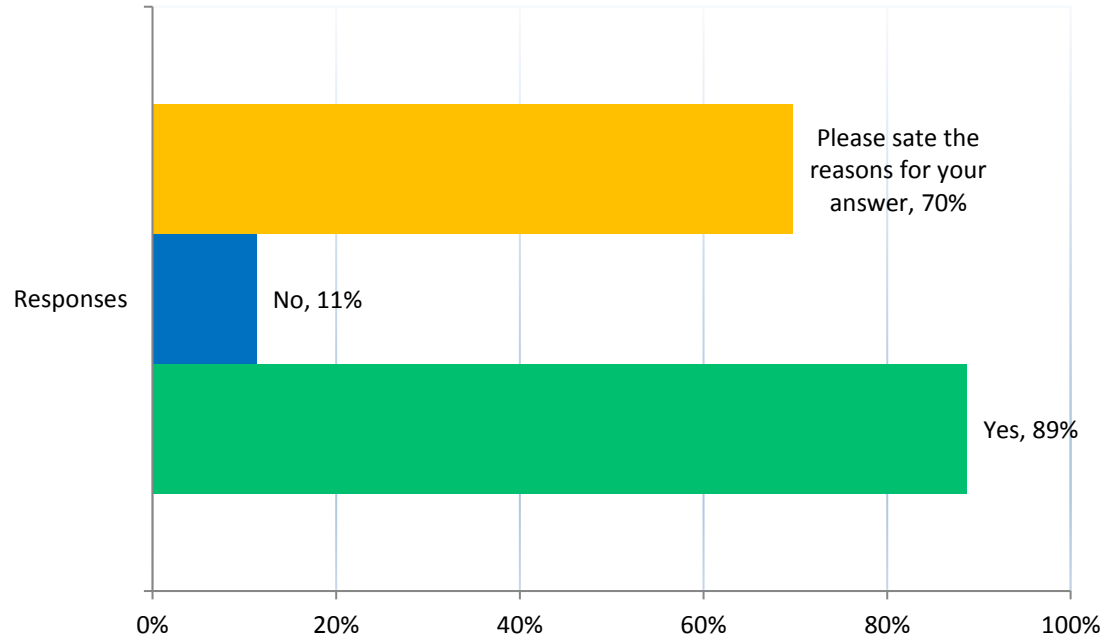
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

## Comment:

Most respondents (89%) said Yes to a Christian culture needing to be developed to help unite the body of Christ.

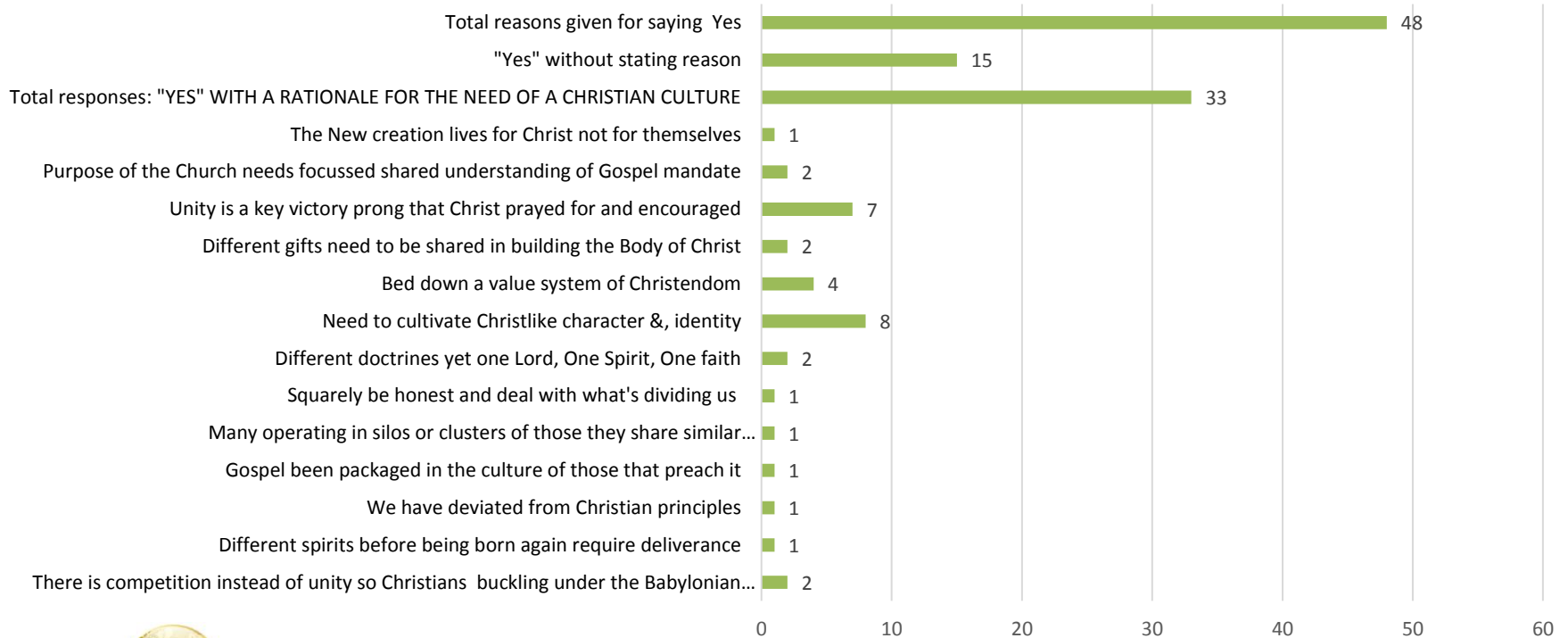
This needs to be considered with great caution: all of it should be word-based and according to Christianity as taught by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

**NB: To be researched further for analysis in a large population representative sample.**



# Reasons given in support of Christian Culture

33 gave reasons. 15 not stated

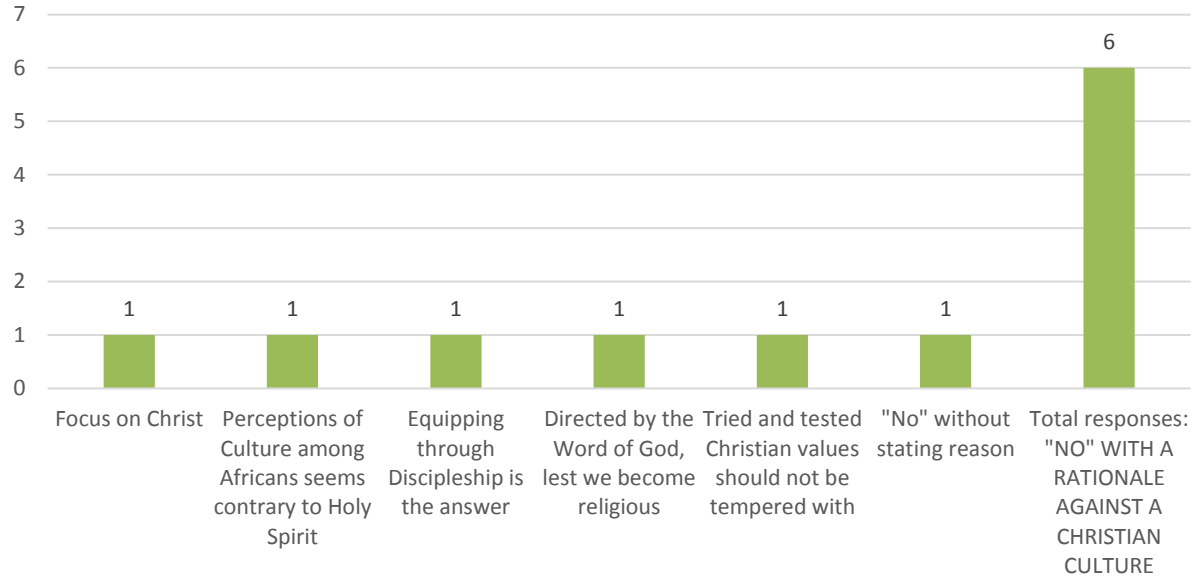


# NO. Reasons stated against a Christian Culture

6 said No

## Comment:

The five reasons stated as reasons against a Christian culture are also the the reasons why there should be.



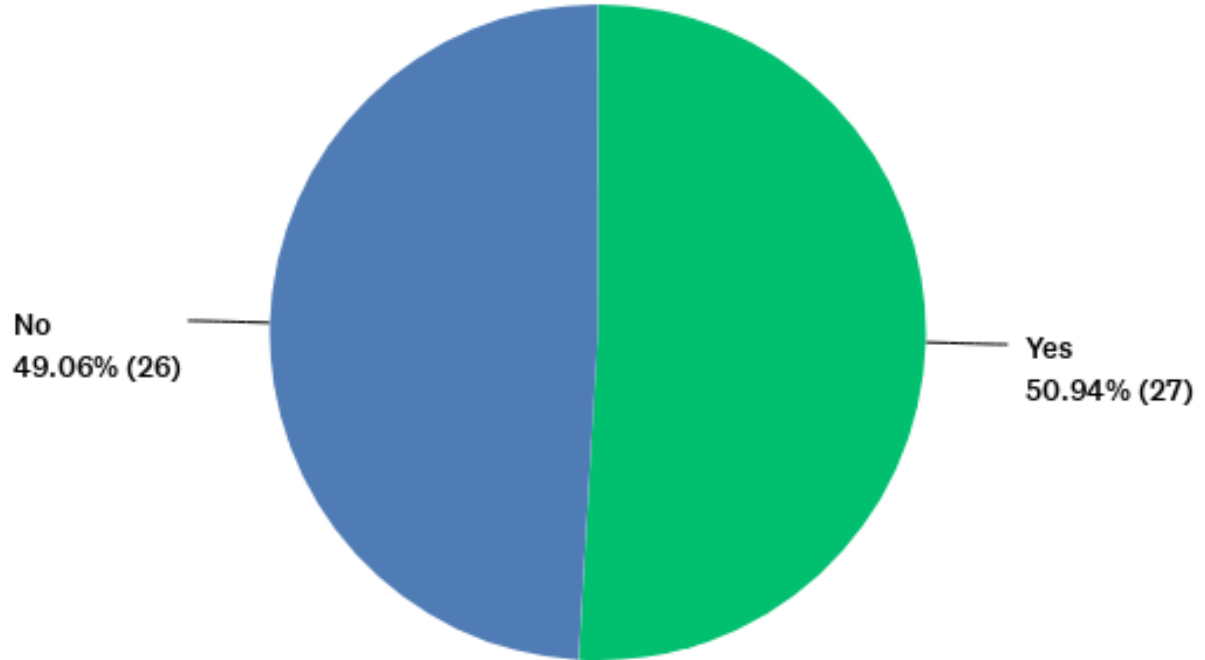
# Do you subscribe to a pension fund or Retirement Annuity?(Note: This is only to establish platforms that could be developed, unique to the Body of Christ. Not for promotional purposes)?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

## Comment:

51% (27) of the respondents said they contributed to a pension or RA.

49% (26) of the respondents said they did not subscribe to a pension fund or RA.



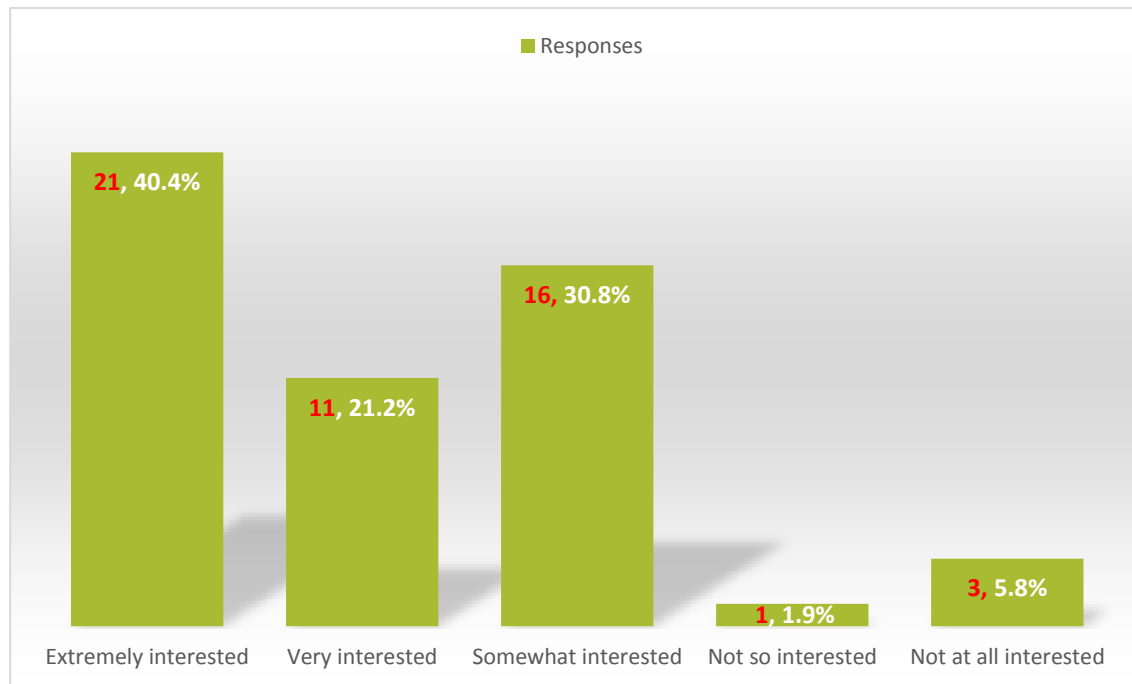
## Would you be interested in a Christian unity pension fund?((Note: This is only to establish platforms that could be developed, unique to the Body of Christ. Not for promotional purposes)?

Answered: 52 Skipped: 1

### Comment:

Almost 52% (32) indicated they would either be extremely or very interested in a Christian unity pension fund. Whilst 31% (16) said they would be somewhat interested, 8% (4 respondents said they would not).

Among the over 80% that would be interested includes an overlap of the 51% (27) that said they were contributing to a pension fund or RA in the previous question.



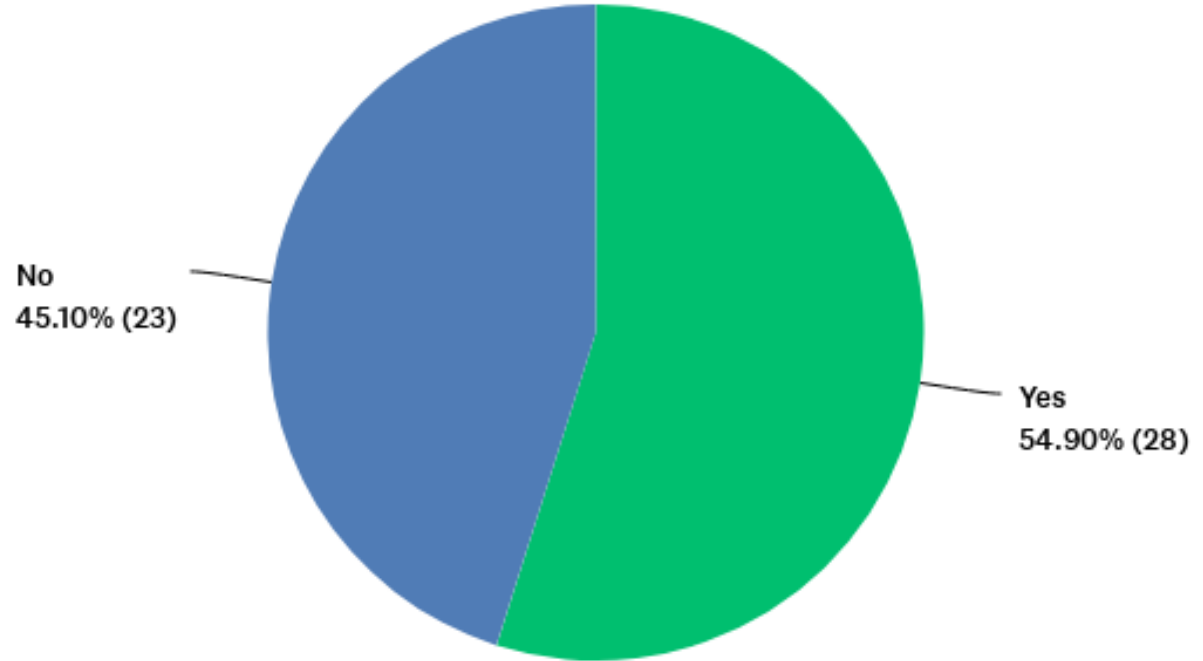
## Q40: Do you produce and use/distribute any ministry evangelizing materials e.g. gospel tracts, fliers, t-shirts, etc.

Answered: 51 Skipped: 2

### Comment:

55% said they used evangelizing materials.

The question is, who produces and prints the materials for the body of Christ? Could this be a business opportunity for Christians?

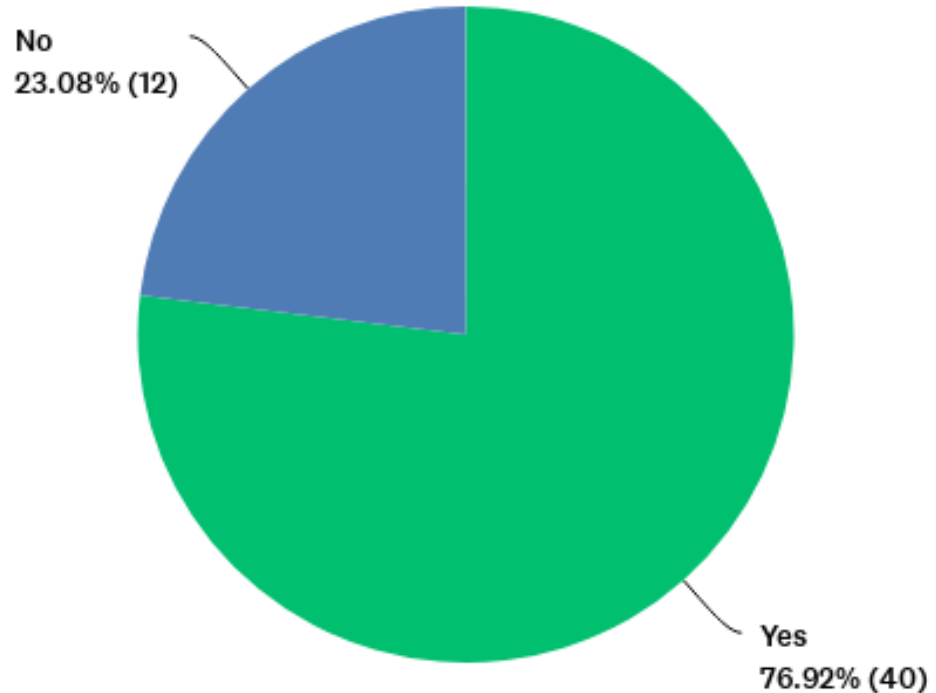


# Are you or your ministry contributing to any charity or have an arm caring for the sick, orphans, the poor or widows?

Answered: 52 Skipped: 1

**Comment:** Most respondents (77%) said they (either individually or in their ministry) contributed to charity or had an arm caring for the sick, orphans, the poor or widows.

The answers provided could have been referring to one or more of the arms, not necessarily all, and either in their individual capacity or through their church. The frequency is also not covered.



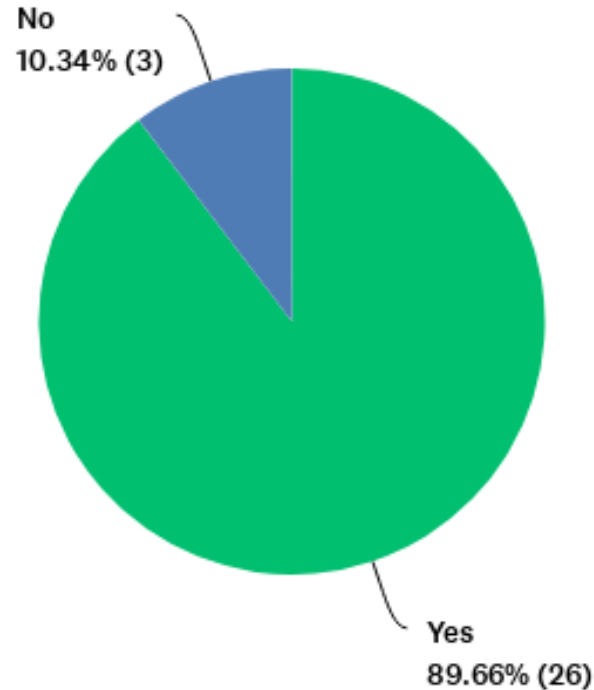
# If not, would you be willing to jointly reach out to orphans, the poor, the sick, widows, etc. with fellow Christian ministers through your forum?

Answered: 29 Skipped: 24

## Comment:

Most respondents (90%) of the respondents said they would be willing to jointly reach out to orphans, the poor, the sick and widows, inter alia, with fellow Christians, despite that 77% already contributed to charity (see previous question).

This could be indicative of them knowing that charity can never be enough for those in need and we cannot possibly reach out to everybody but more could be achieved jointly.





**Q35: Many pastors are reportedly retiring with insufficient resources to sustain their livelihoods. If socio-economic benefits were to be developed, please can you indicate the benefits that would interest you from Christian based services or products (Note: This is only to ascertain needs for the benefit of members of the Body of Christ. Not a promise).**

**Comment:**

Just under 49% (highest #) of the respondents said they would be interested in all of the benefits if offered/availed. Also to note is the same number (49%) interested in financial benefits for business ventures, or Christian business opportunities; thereafter Bible college fees, Bursaries, Medical Aid and Pension. To a lesser extent were the Christian banking, food products and discounts.

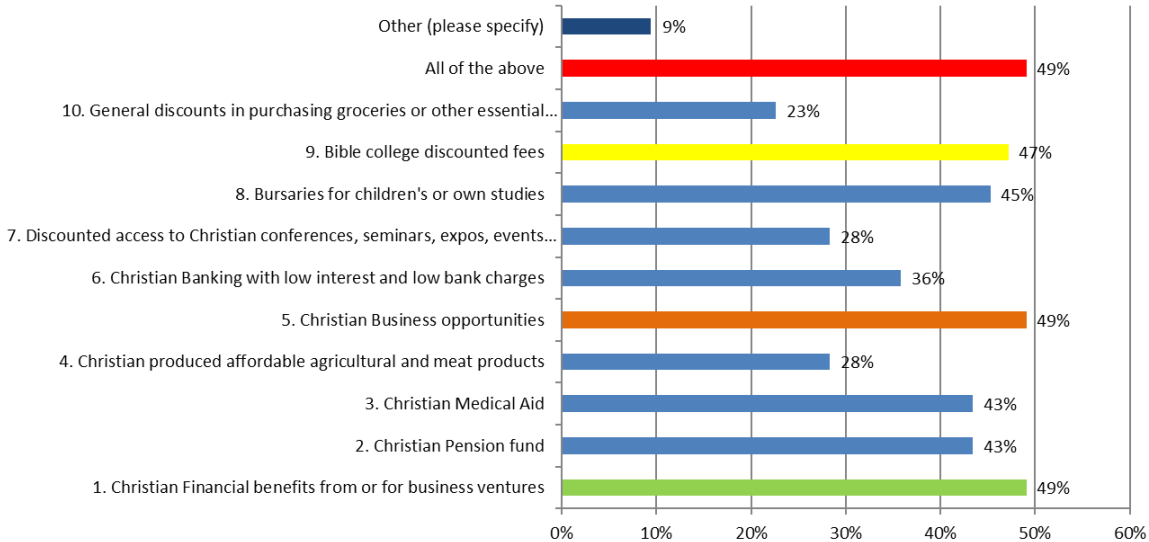
Note: It was not clear as to whether it is psychographic i.t.o reach or access thinking it's impossible, or the lack of interest.

More probing questions in much larger samples in quantitative analysis based on a large population is needed here. RESULTS ARE INCONCLUSIVE AT THIS STAGE.

OTHER responses. One of each stated the following under Other:

1. None of these because we must not separate ourselves from the world.
2. Unable to answer now until the unity priority is met
3. 10 not owned by Christians
4. Education critical whilst people can and working where possible is important

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



**Q35: Many pastors are reportedly retiring with insufficient resources to sustain their livelihoods. If socio-economic benefits were to be developed, please can you indicate the benefits that would interest you from Christian based services or products (Note: This is only to ascertain needs for the benefit of members of the Body of Christ. Not a promise).**

Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

| Answer Choices  | Responses |    |
|---|-----------|----|
| 1. Christian Financial benefits from or for business ventures             | 49%       | 26 |
| 2. Christian Pension fund   | 43%       | 23 |
| 3. Christian Medical Aid  | 43%       | 23 |
| 4. Christian produced affordable agricultural and meat products           | 28%       | 15 |
| 5. Christian Business opportunities                                       | 49%       | 26 |
| 6. Christian Banking with low interest and low bank charges               | 36%       | 19 |
| 7. Discounted access to Christian conferences, seminars, expos, events    | 28%       | 15 |
| 8. Bursaries for children's or own studies                                | 45%       | 24 |
| 9. Bible college discounted fees  | 47%       | 25 |
| 10. General discounts in purchasing groceries or other essential products | 23%       | 12 |
| All of the above  | 49%       | 26 |
| Other (please specify)  | 9%        | 5  |



# Do you run a business aside from your ministry work?

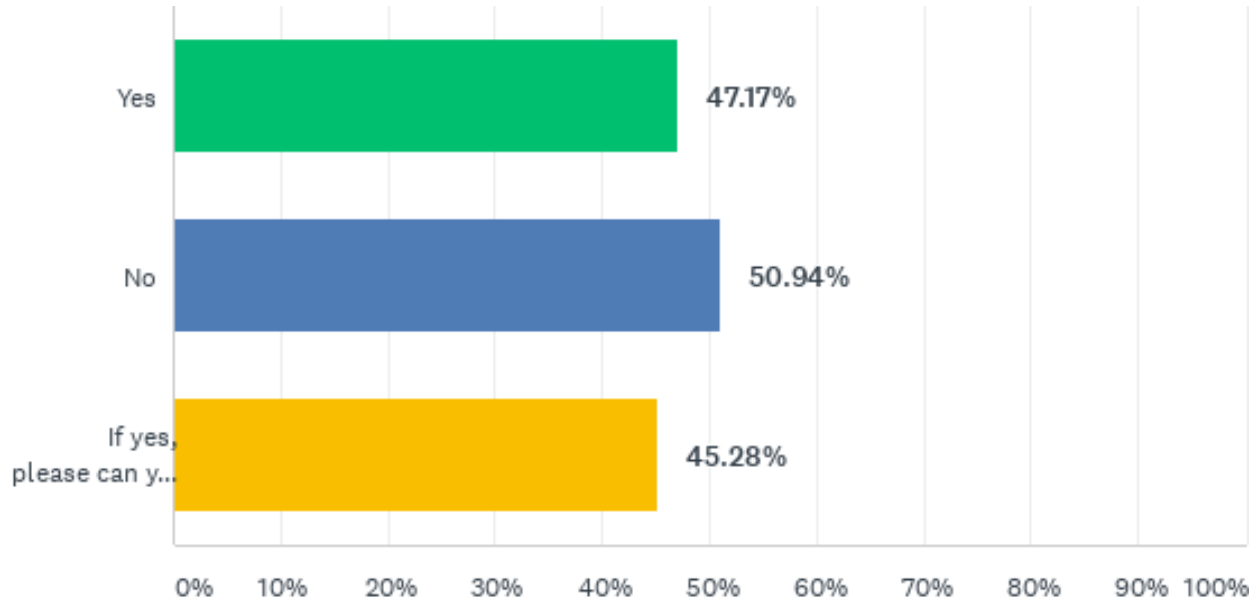
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0

## Comment:

51% of the respondents said they did not have a business aside from their ministry work.

47% said they ran businesses, although some indicated financial challenges in their business.

Note: this ties in with the reason why many said they were going through financial challenges and limitations in progress.

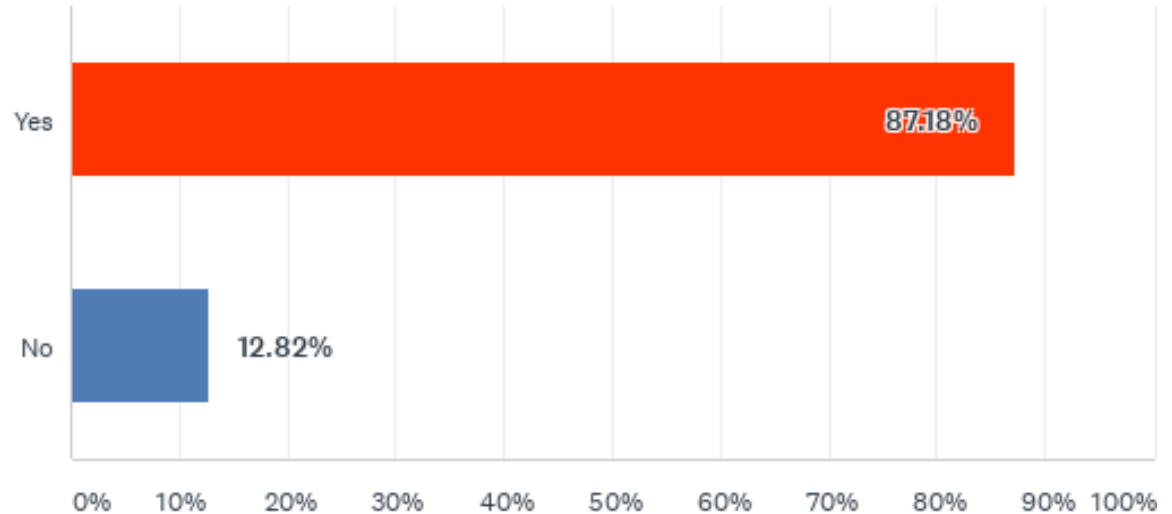


# If you do not run a business, would you be interested in being trained to equip you to use your hands or start an income-generating business to augment your personal or ministry income?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 14

**Comment:** A high percentage of respondents(87%) indicated that they would be interested in receiving training to equip them to either use their hands or start income-generating businesses to augment their personal or ministry income.

This leads to the need to start income-generating projects from within the Christian community.



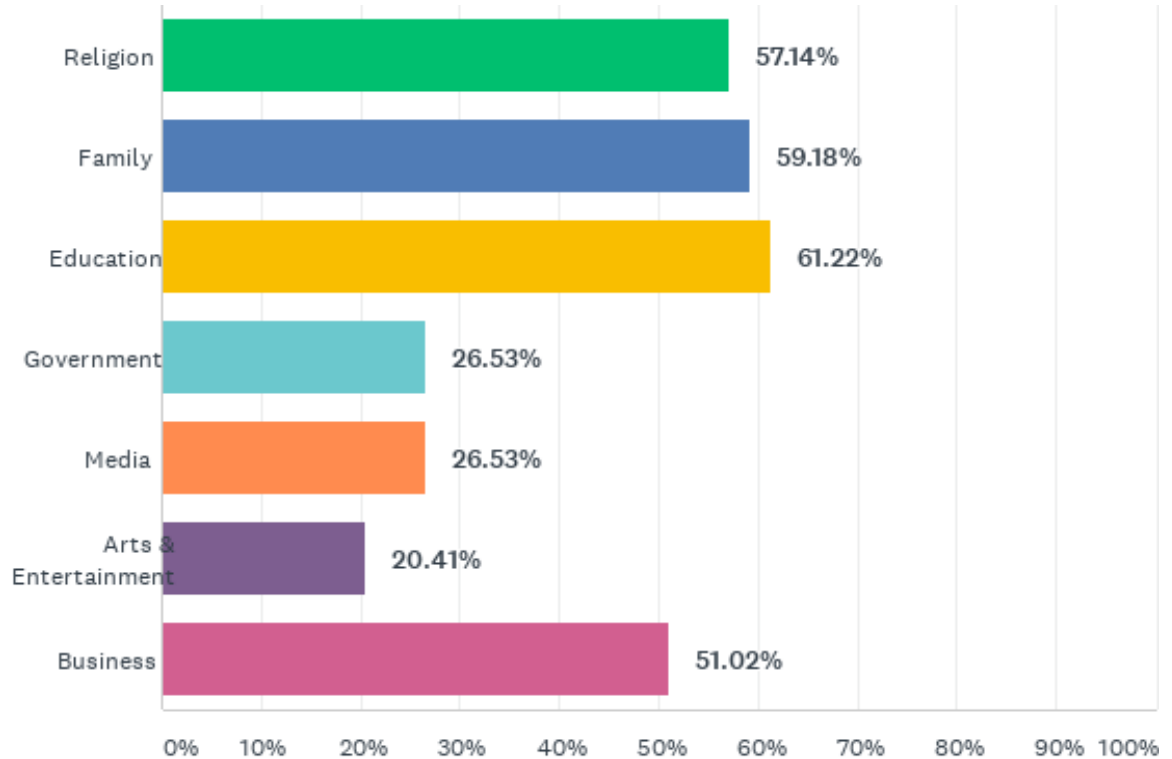
**Q43: Should opportunities arise through the strategies to be jointly developed, which fields would you operate in, to "Bring Godly change by reaching out to souls through the seven mountains of societal influence" (Note: in some instances, aspects may overlap. So you may state more than one interest area).**

Answered: 49 Skipped: 4

**Comment:**

Most respondents said they would operate in the spheres /mountains of Education, Family, Religion and Business to bring Godly change.

Far fewer would want to be in government, Media and Arts Entertainment.



**Q43: Should opportunities arise through the strategies to be jointly developed, which fields would you operate in, to "Bring Godly change by reaching out to souls through the seven mountains of societal influence" (Note: in some instances, aspects may overlap. So you may state more than one interest area).**

Answered: 49 Skipped: 4

| ANSWER CHOICES        | RESPONSES |    |
|-----------------------|-----------|----|
| Religion              | 57.14%    | 28 |
| Family                | 59.18%    | 29 |
| Education             | 61.22%    | 30 |
| Government            | 26.53%    | 13 |
| Media                 | 26.53%    | 13 |
| Arts & Entertainment  | 20.41%    | 10 |
| Business              | 51.02%    | 25 |
| Total Respondents: 49 |           |    |



# Questions or Suggestions for Christian Unity Projects Or Programs

## Comment:

The column on the left indicates the questions/ comments made by 10 respondents in the last question, Q44.

To the right is the researcher's comments. Some of the inputs will also be used in the strategy development process.

Thank you!



|    | Q44. QUESTION OR SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY PROJECTS OR PROGRAMS   | SHORTNENED ANSWER  |
|----|---|--|
| 1  | What are you trying to establish by doing this research? Jesus has already established unity, oneness. It's already there.  | It was The Lord's prayer that we may be One, yet we are very divided! Only He knows whether we are united or not. He came to introduce the Kingdom of God, and it is here. But how many are fully and successfully operating in it as we should; and worse still, how many are falling away? NB: This is God's instruction that He gave us in Nov 2009 when He loudly said : 'UNITE CHRISTIANS'. We are only obeying His(Jesus Christ's) instruction by faith. |
| 2  | Suggestion: Question 32-44 would have been considered later when unity is well reached  | The suggested programs are to help strengthen one another through a support system, to try and ensure true believers will not fall off the bus due to challenges.  |
| 3  | Let's work together faster  | Sure, it depends on the working together/willingness of the members of the body of Christ.   |
| 4  | Is this only for charismatic churches, or all churches .  | Certainly not! Mainline respondents are included in this survey, some of whom responded within this pilot phase. Other Christian believers such as Messianic Jews/Jewish Christians etc. will also be included at a later stage.   |
| 5  | Promote unity and the love of Christians to one another   | Indeed!. That's the whole point of strategising towards unity, because we are not loving one another   |
| 6  | My concern is the Pastors' wives that seem to be left behind in many things. Please do something in order to bring them along.  | Valid concern! Can someone please initiate the cause? Our organisation does not have the capacity for all the roles required to meet the demands of this ministerial calling. We count on volunteers to 'serve' the body of Christ as the Lord will provide.   |
| 7  | Let's practice Isaiah 60. Come together and help one another and share skills. E.g. I'm good in counselling. One of my son in-laws is farming and daughter in skills and another in development, designing. | Indeed! Hence the need for us to strategise (think and act strategically) after this needs and perceptions assessment as part of a mapping out process.  |
| 8  | We need to look at creating Christian Schools or institutions for our children  | Absolutely important! What is in the pipeline from our side is the setting up of the GCU Academy of Sciences, a Christian values-based school. However, we need more workforce from the body of Christ to assist and lead with many aspects, initially on a voluntary basis until the funds are raised through a board that is in process of being appointed.  |
| 9  | With things having gotten worse for me, stagnation on all fronts...can the forum assist with groceries?   | With time, this will be possible if we work together, not just to raise funds but to work together as we are all called by Christ.   |
| 10 | Thank you so much! God. God bless you so much!!   | Amen! God bless you too!   |

# IMPORTANT! Thank you!

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1. This was a pilot study before a national roll out of large-scale research through quantitative statistical methodology, and implementation of strategies towards unity/togetherness/oneness in the body of Christ. Note: It's only for the body of Christ.
2. A margin of error exists at about 2%, albeit accurately applicable in large quantitative samples.
3. A controlled sample of 50 in qualitative studies is large enough to make strategic decisions.
4. This was a Dipstick survey, treated similar to focus group discussions (eliminating group dynamics), for inputs on how the large sample questions should be structured and questions phrased. It also provided useful inputs for the pilot strategy starting with a controlled sample environment.
5. Open-ended questions in this survey provided with useful qualitative inputs for a structured questionnaire targeting larger national, continental and global sample population sizes as the research program progresses.
6. Constructive suggestions or volunteered inputs, as well as any willingness for us to “work together” in attaining the vision of unity in the body of Christ, are welcome.

## **THANK YOU!**

MAY GOD ALMIGHTY RICHLY BLESS ALL THOSE THAT PARTICIPATED, AS WELL AS LEADERS THAT PROVIDED KICK-START SPONSORSHIP AND INPUTS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS SURVEY.

