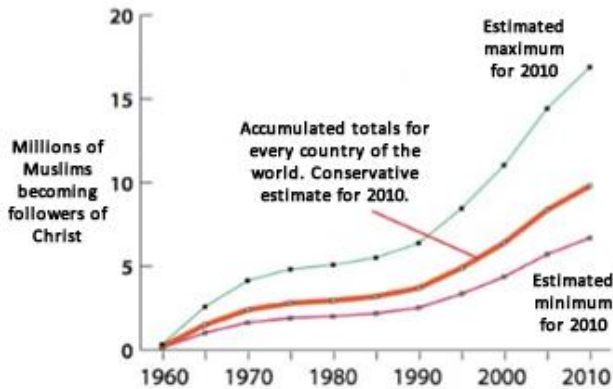


THE GOOD

--- Encouraging Trends ---

Dramatic increase in Church Planting Movements (CPM) – New research suggests that there are over 650 CPMs now underway. A CPM has multiple streams of at least four generations of churches. These CPMs involve over 50 million new disciples in 2.8 million small, new house churches.

Muslims coming to Christ – From 1960 to 2010, the number of Muslims that have converted to faith in Jesus Christ has grown from fewer than 200,000 to a conservative figure of 10 million people. Research suggests the number of conversions could be as low as around 6 million or even as high as 17 or 18 million. The data does not include 2011 to the present, though there is evidence of continued — perhaps even accelerated — conversions in recent years.



Shrinking unengaged population – less than 3% of the world’s population live in unengaged unreached people groups (UUPGs). Unengaged unreached people groups have no reported on-site church planting team.

Indian church growth – God is doing something unique in India. Some say it is similar to the revival in China in the 1980s. Asia Harvest Ministries reports “... poor Hindus and tribalists in the states like Odisha, Bihar and many others are on fire in many districts and there is tremendous growth! ... There is a great revival going on and I wouldn’t at all be surprised if the number of believers in India is up to 70+ million.” Hindu leaders in the Indian government are so concerned they refuse to release accurate Christian percentages from the recent census.



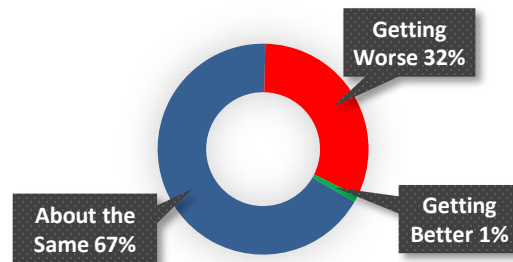
THE NOT SO GOOD

--- Challenging Trends ---

Absolute number of unbelievers is increasing – while Christians of all types make up about 1/3 of the world, the absolute number of non-Christians is increasing.

Year	Non-Christians
1900	1.06 billion
1970	2.46 billion
2000	4.14 billion
2018	5.09 billion
2025	5.36 billion (est.)

Increase in persecution of Christians worldwide – 2017 was the worst year in modern history for Christian persecution. According to the president of Open Doors, “The level of exclusion, discrimination, and violence against Christians is unprecedented, spreading and intensifying.” The percentage of the world’s population living in countries where religious restrictions or social hostilities are:



Pastor training needed – An estimated 95% of pastors worldwide (2.2 million) have had no formal training. Thousands of new pastors are needed to keep up with new churches planted. Without leaders fully equipped in the Word to deal with the nurture of their flocks, the church can easily become unhealthy or disappear. In fact, 2/3s of those reached through evangelism fall away!

Unreached peoples not a financial priority – Until recently, Americans spent more on Halloween costumes for their pets than on outreach to unreached people groups. In addition, the amount of money involved in ecclesiastical church crime is greater than the amount that goes to global foreign missions.



Record displacement of people – The UN says 65 million people were displaced in 2015, a new record. This is the equivalent of the entire population of Britain being uprooted and moved to a new location.