

Pastors' Views on Persecuted Christians

A SURVEY OF AMERICAN PROTESTANT PASTORS

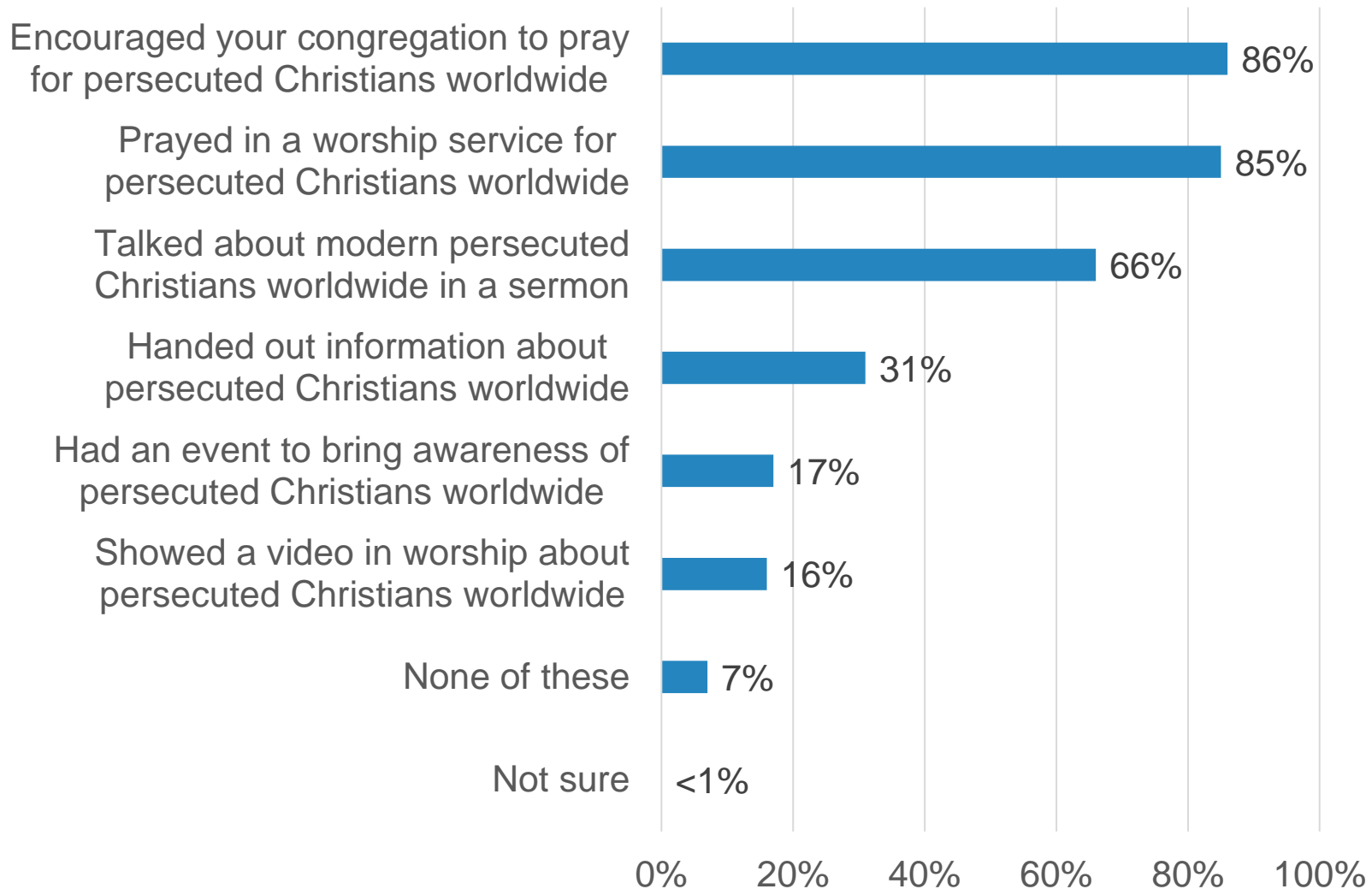
Lifeway research

Methodology

- The phone survey of 1,003 Protestant pastors was conducted August 8 – September 3, 2024
- The calling list was a stratified random sample, drawn from a list of all Protestant churches. Quotas were used for church size
- Each interview was conducted with the senior pastor, minister or priest at the church
- Responses were weighted by region and church size to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,003 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 3.3\%$ This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Among Protestant Pastors



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Q: “Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months? (Select all that apply)” n=1,003

Significant Differences

Pastor

Age

Gender

Ethnicity

Education Level

Self-identified Evangelical/Mainline

Church

Region

Denomination

Average Attendance

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Significant Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the pastor's ethnicity, age, gender, education, self-identified Evangelical or Mainline.

AGE	GENDER	ETHNICITY	EDUCATION	Self-Identified
18-44	Male	White	No College Degree	Evangelical
45-54	Female	African American	Bachelor's Degree	Mainline
55-64		Other Ethnicities	Master's Degree	
65+			Doctoral Degree	

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among the church's region, denomination, and attendance.

REGION	DENOMINATION GROUP	ATTENDANCE
Northeast	Baptist	0-49
South	Lutheran	50-99
Midwest	Methodist	100-249
West	Pentecostal	250+
	Presbyterian/Reformed	
	Christian/Church of Christ	
	Non-Denominational	

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Prayed in a worship service for persecuted Christians worldwide

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (87% v. 75%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (89% v. 79%)
- Pastors in the South (88%) and West (88%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (78%)
- Presbyterian/Reformed are the least likely to select (72%)

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Encouraged your congregation to pray for persecuted Christians worldwide

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (89% v. 75%)
- Pastors with a Bachelor’s Degree (92%) are more likely to select than those with a Master’s Degree (85%) or a Doctoral Degree (80%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (92% v. 80%)
- Pastors in the South (89%) are more likely to select than those in the Northeast (80%)
- Baptists (90%) and Pentecostals (96%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (84%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (75%)

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Talked about modern persecuted Christians worldwide in a sermon

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (71% v. 41%)
- Pastors with a Master’s Degree are the least likely to select (59%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (75% v. 53%)
- Baptists (74%), Pentecostals (82%), Christian/Church of Christ (70%), and Non-denominational (72%) are more likely to select than Lutherans (56%) and Presbyterian/Reformed (47%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 100-249 (75%) and 250+ (74%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 0-49 (59%)

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Showed a video in worship about persecuted Christians worldwide

- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (18% v. 8%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Mainline pastors (22% v. 9%)
- Lutherans are the least likely to select (4%)
- Pastors at churches with attendance 0-49 are the least likely to select (10%)

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Had an event to bring awareness of persecuted Christians worldwide

- Pastors age 65+ (23%) are more likely to select than pastors age 18-44 (14%) and 55-64 (13%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (18% v. 12%)
- Pastors of Other Ethnicities are the most likely to select (25%)
- Non-denominational (27%) are more likely to select than Baptists (15%), Lutherans (16%), Methodists (11%), and Christian/Church of Christ (12%)

“Has your church done any of the following in the past 12 months?”

Handed out information about persecuted Christians worldwide

- Pastors age 65+ (37%) are more likely to select than pastors age 18-44 (25%)
- Male pastors are more likely to select than females (34% v. 16%)
- Evangelical pastors are more likely to select than Evangelical pastors (36% v. 24%)
- Baptists (33%) and Non-denominational (39%) are more likely to select than Presbyterian/Reformed (23%) and Christian/Church of Christ (20%)

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