

Student Leaders' Views on Parent Ministry

A SURVEY OF STUDENT MINISTRY LEADERS

Lifeway **research**

Methodology

- The online survey of 1,056 student ministry leaders was conducted February 8-28, 2024
- Contact lists of student ministry leaders were developed from both Lifeway's lists and outside lists.
- Each respondent was screened to ensure they are able to describe the student ministry at their church and that their church is Protestant or Non-denominational Christian in the U.S.
- Student Leaders are defined for this study as either someone who is the primary leader of student ministry at their church or a leader who assists with student ministry at their church and is knowledgeable about it
- Southern Baptist student ministry leaders were oversampled. The 815 SBC responses were weighted down to reflect their correct proportion of Protestant churches.
- Responses were weighted by region, church size, and denominational category to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,056 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed $\pm 6.2\%$ This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

Limitations

Probability samples for Protestant student ministry leaders do not exist. When representative sampling is not possible, it is important to obtain as wide a variety of respondents as possible. Three broad sources were used:

- Ministers of Students identified by congregations in SBCWorkspace (the database of Southern Baptist congregations)
- Two purchased lists of Youth Leaders
- Youth leaders who have interacted with Lifeway's camps, events, Bible study resources, and website

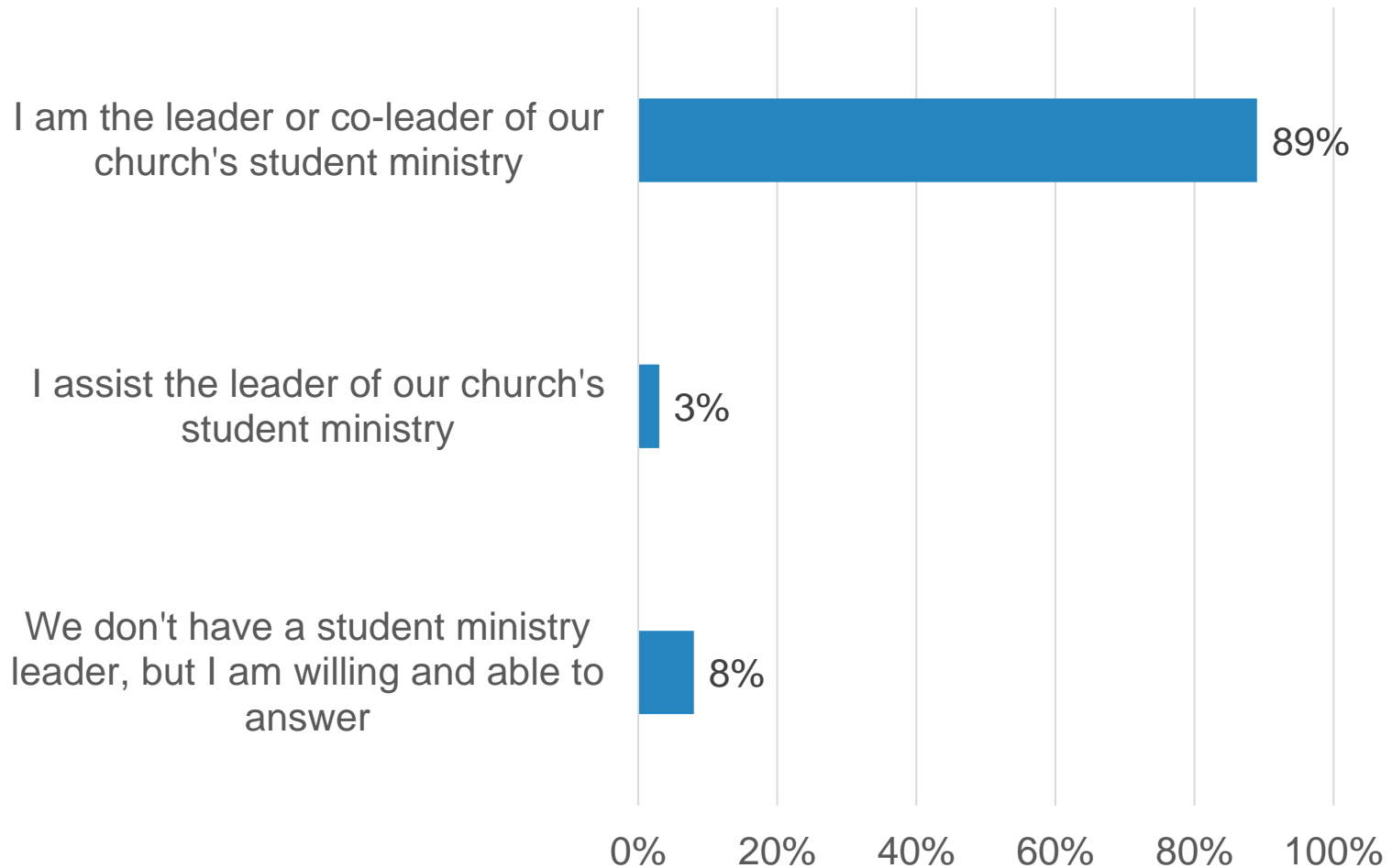
Note that some groups are less represented because the scope of this study does not include churches that do not have student ministry activities. Groups that interact with Lifeway less will be underrepresented in this study.

Indications of the breadth of the sample prior to weighting include:

- Sizes of churches participating (19% <100, 33% 100-249, 23% 250-499, 25% 500+)
- Gender of student ministry leaders (83% Male, 17% Female)
- Ethnicity of leader (90% White, 2% African American, 4% Hispanic, 5% Other)
- Ages of student ministry leaders (24% 18-29, 62% 30-49, 14% 50+)
- Region of churches participating (2% Northeast, 13% Midwest, 78% South, 8% West)

Responsibilities of the Student Ministry Respondents

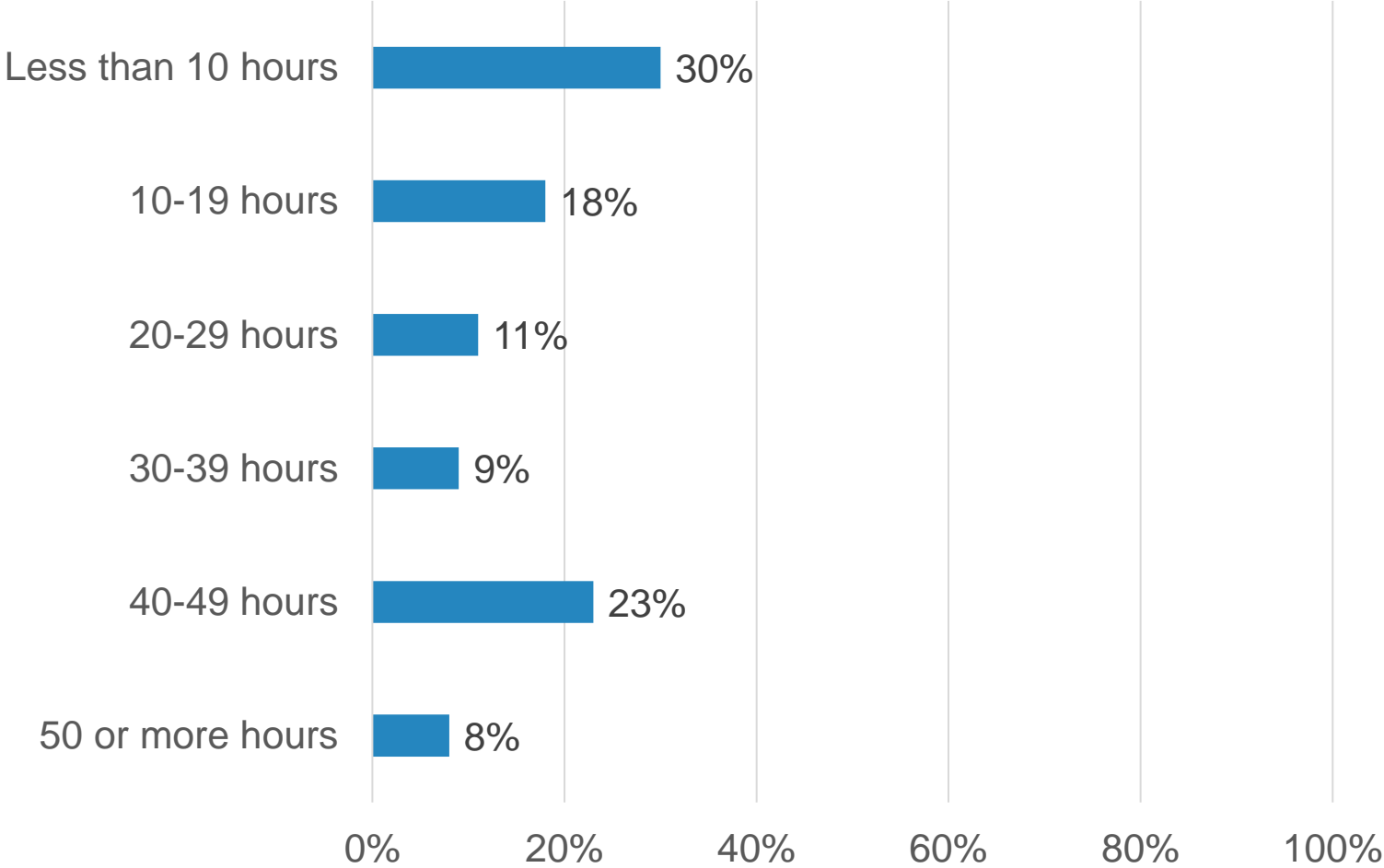
Among Student Leaders



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31% spend 40 hours or more a week in their student ministry role

Among Student Leaders



Lifeway research

Q5: "On average, how many hours a week do you spend in your student ministry leadership role? (Select one)" n=1,056

Average (Mean) Time spent during the week

Among Student Leaders

With Church staff	7 hours
With Students at student ministry activities	4 hours
With Students one-on-one	2 hours
With Students at their extracurricular activities or hanging out	2 hours
With Parents	1 hour
With Adult volunteers	2 hours
Hours Alone (e.g., Handling logistics, administration, preparing lessons, etc.)	11 hours

Average number of student ministry participants (Means)

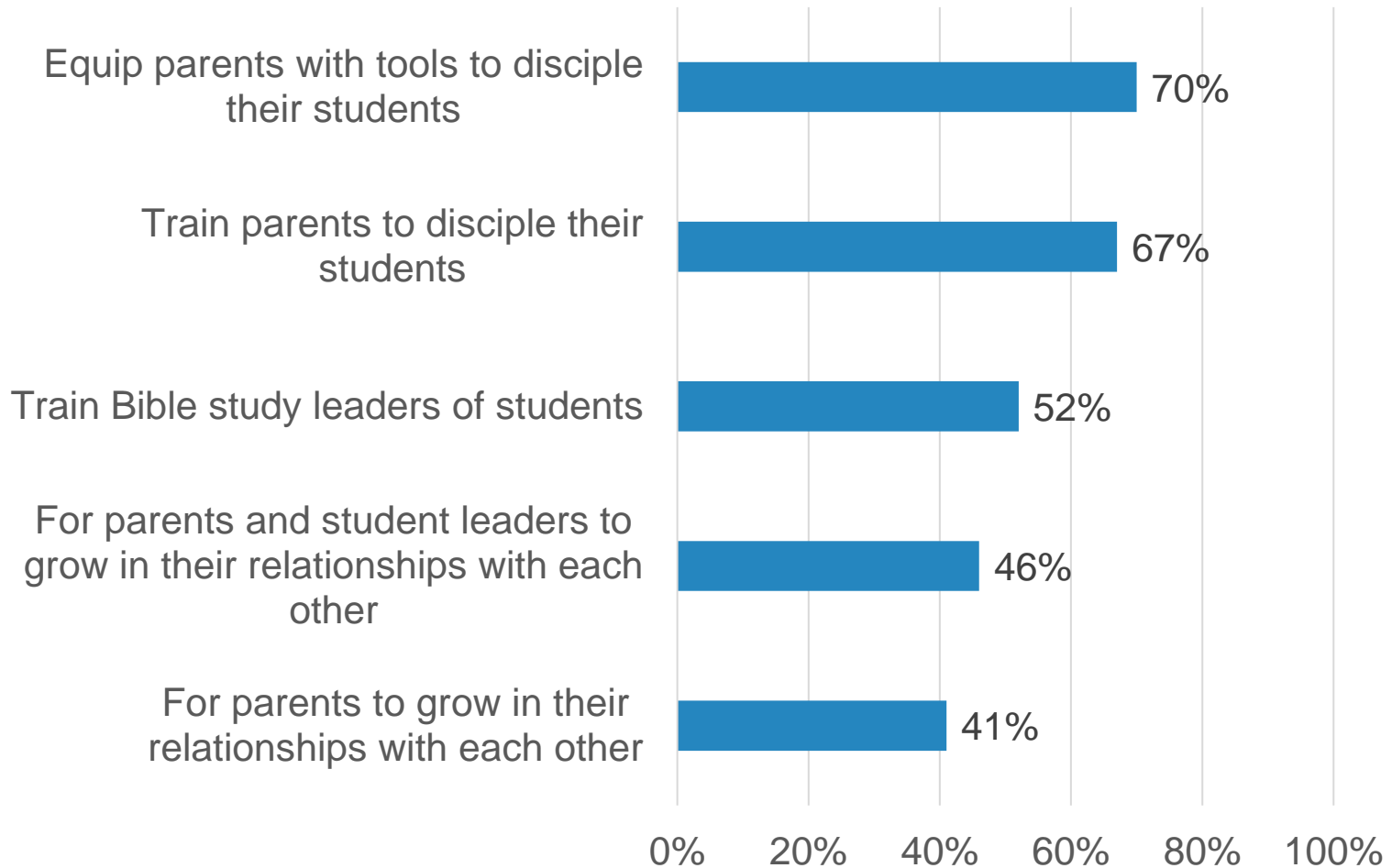
Students participating each week	48
Adult leaders participating each week	13
Parents participating each week	14
Students who have attended <u>any</u> student ministry activity in the last 3 months	83

Lifeway research

Q7: "In a typical week, how many people participate in your student ministry?" n=1,056
Q8: "About how many individual students have attended any student ministry activity in the last 3 months at your church (including regular and occasional attendees and visitors)? n=1,056

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Among Student Leaders

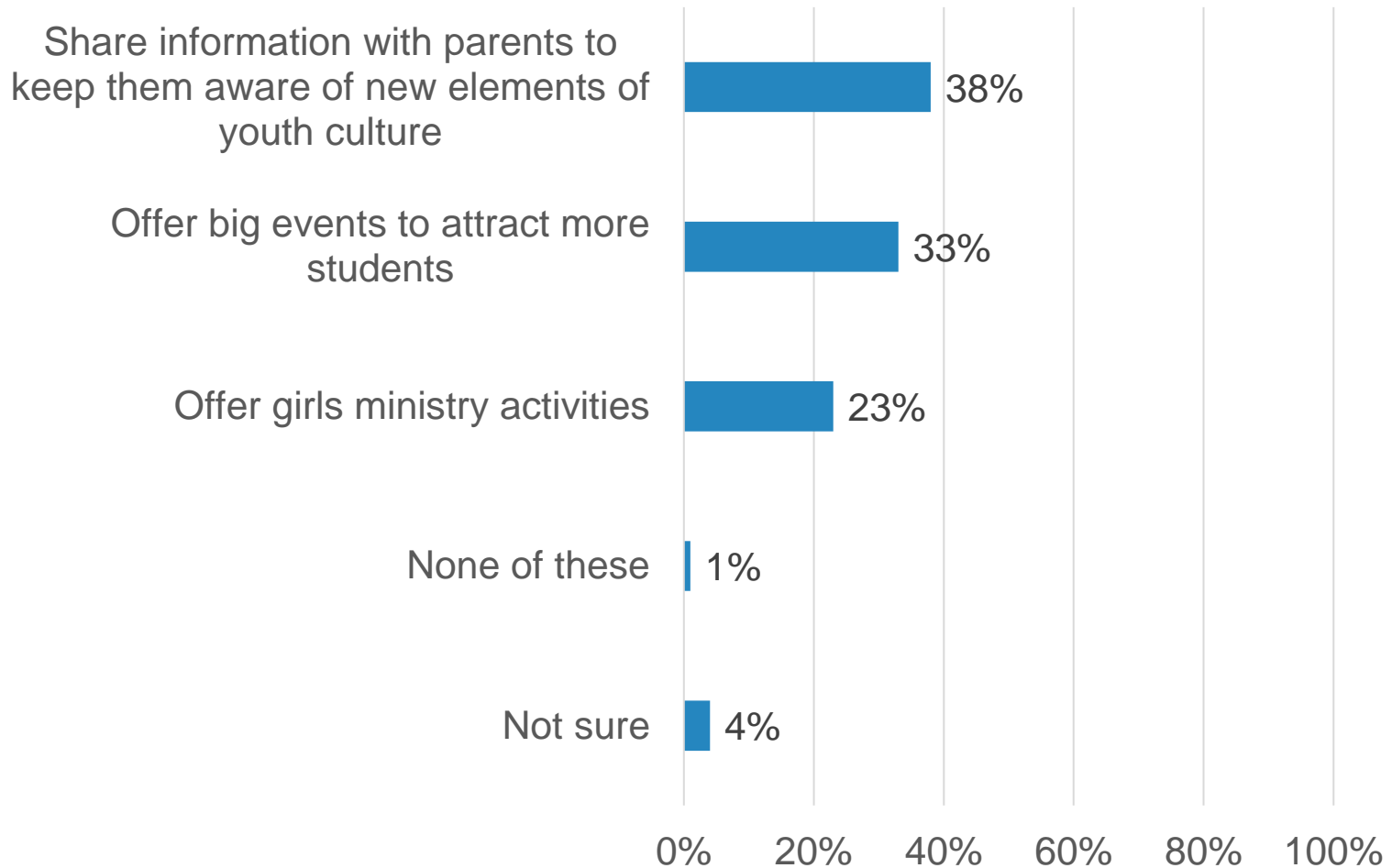


Lifeway research

Q9: “If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year? (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?” *continued*

Among Student Leaders

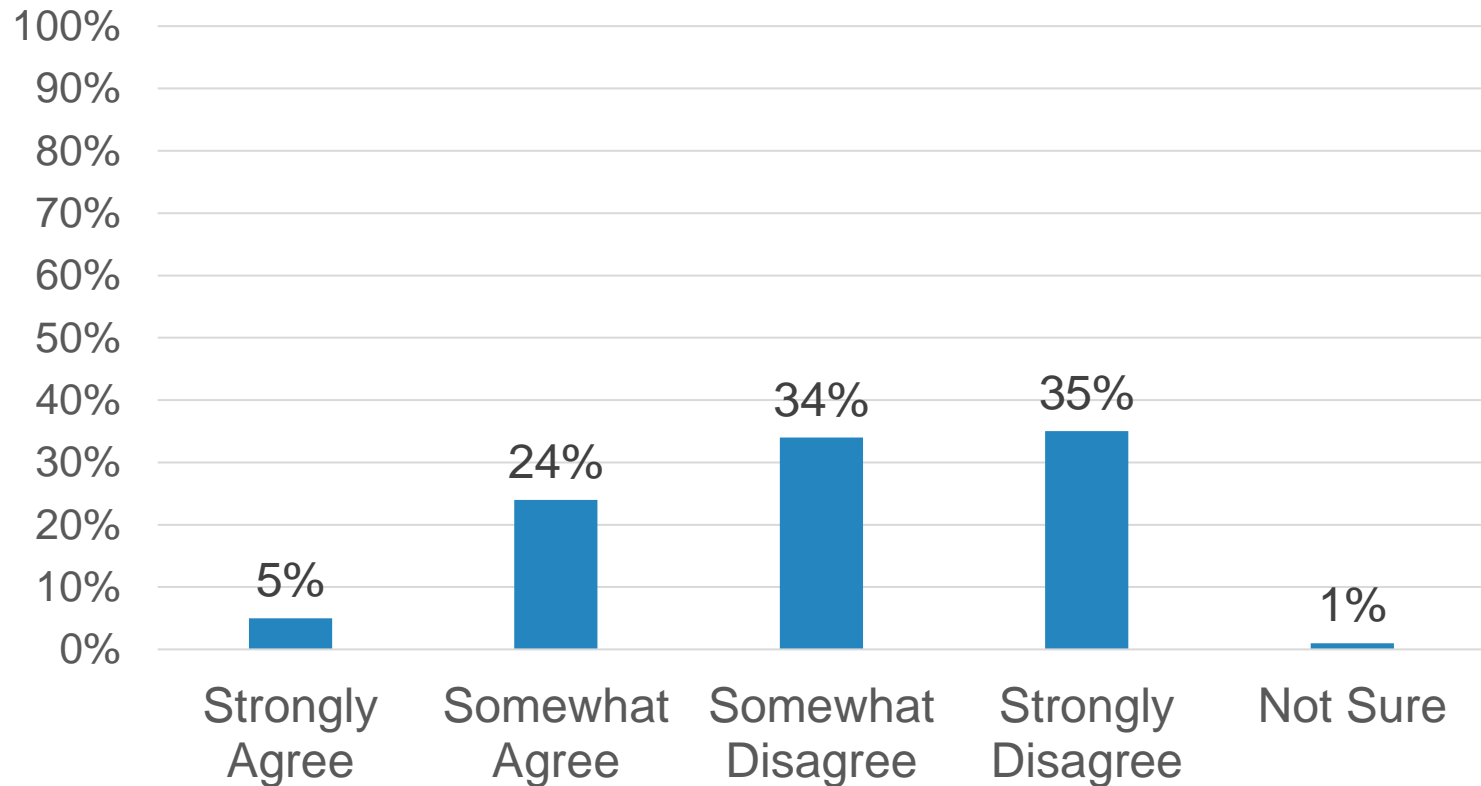


Lifewayresearch

Q9: “If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?” (Select all that apply) n=1,056

29% feel inadequate to train or equip parents to lead their students spiritually

Among Student Leaders

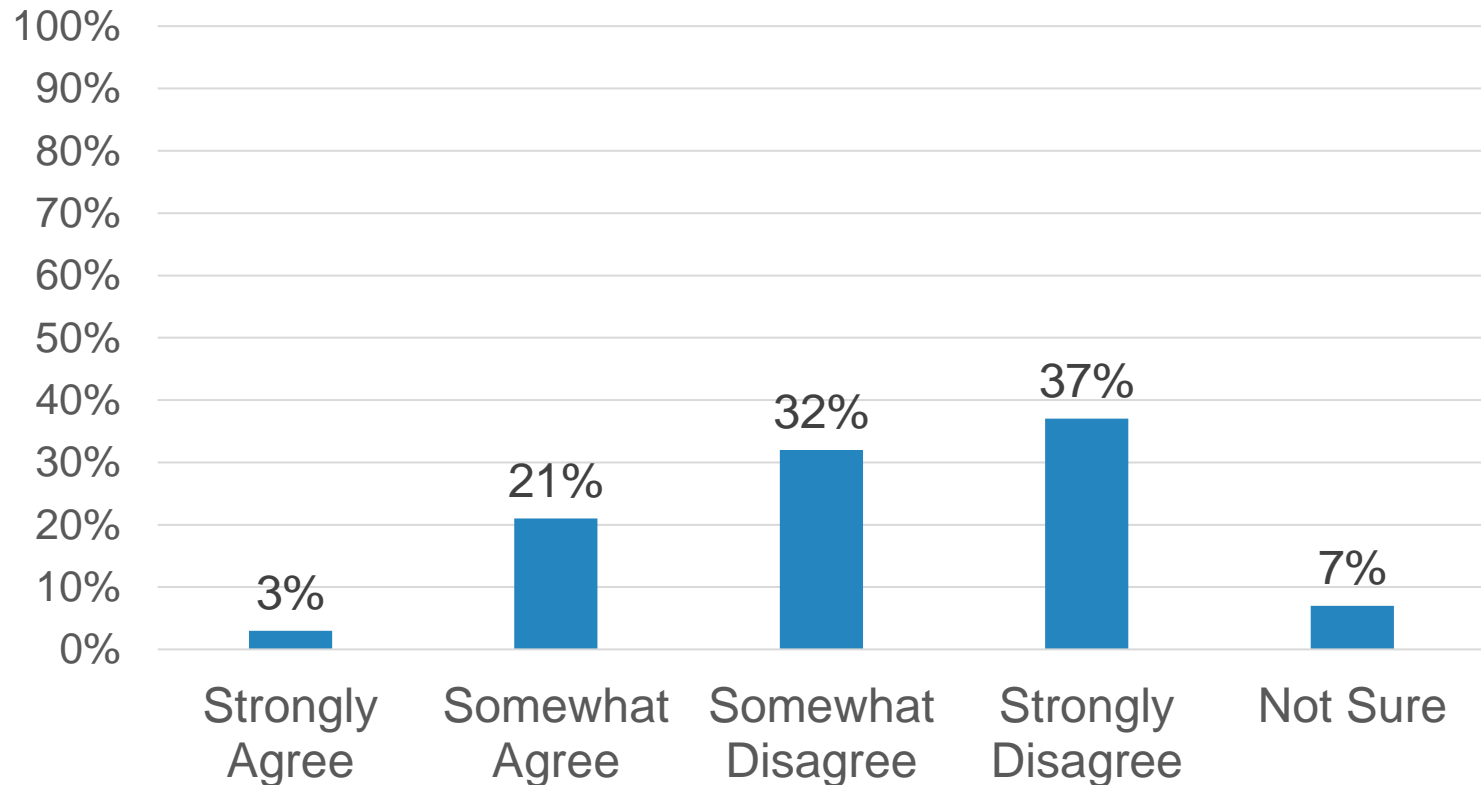


Lifewayresearch

Q10: "I feel inadequate to train or equip parents to lead their student spiritually." n=1,056

24% believe parents don't want them to provide resources for encouraging their student's spiritual growth

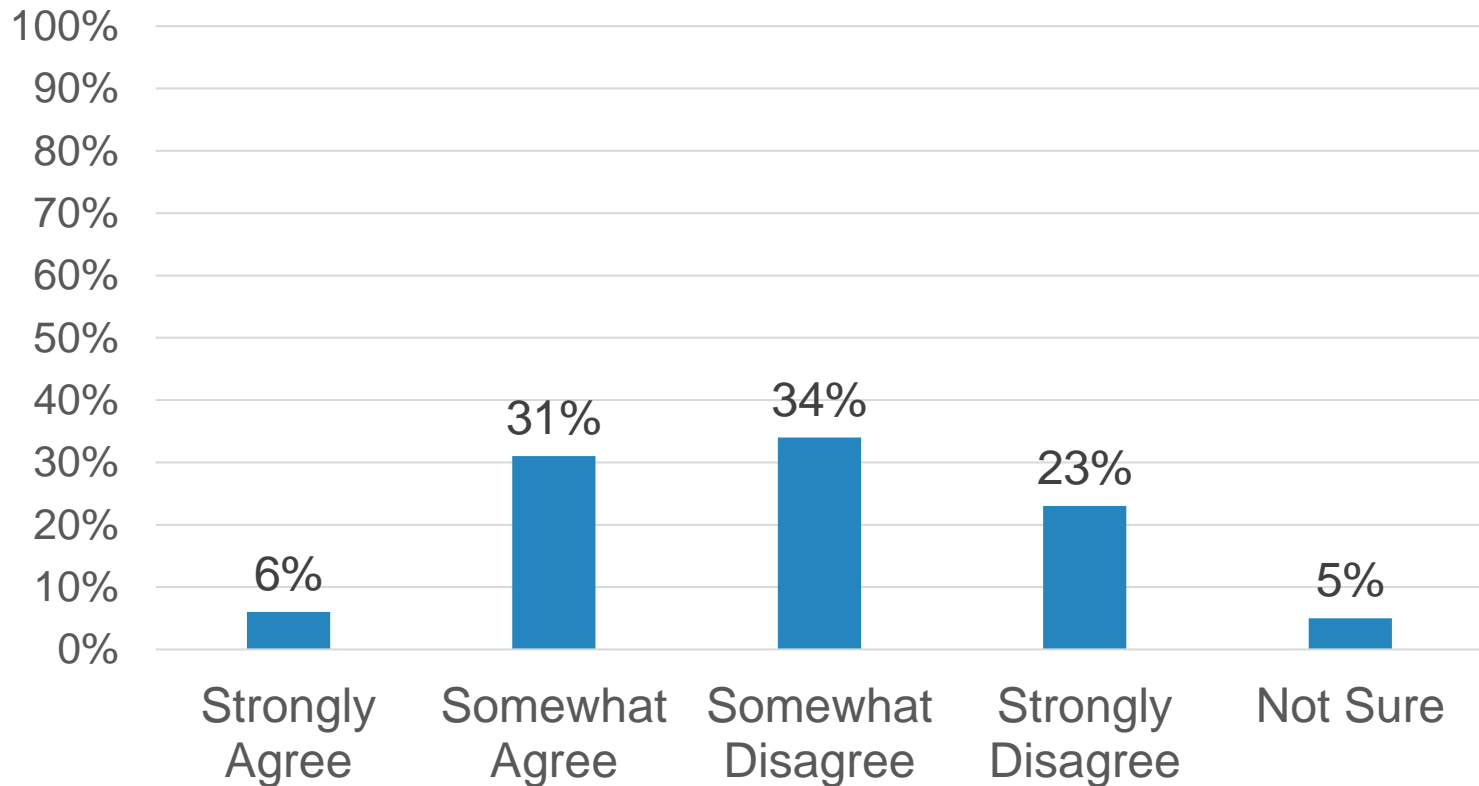
Among Student Leaders



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57% do not have a clearly defined strategy for ministering to parents

Among Student Leaders

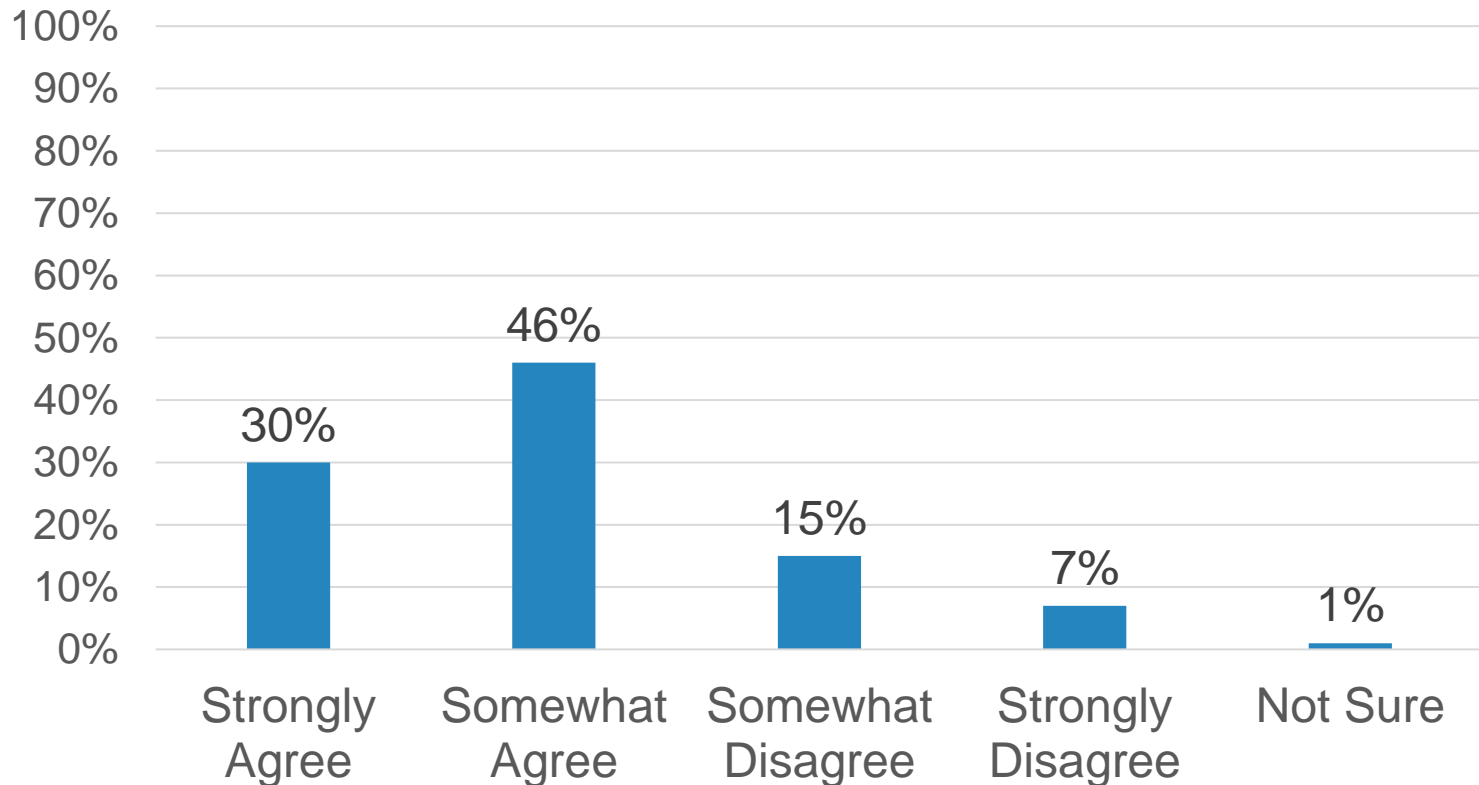


Lifewayresearch

Q12: "I have a clearly defined strategy for ministering to parents." n=1,056

76% say parents in their church are concerned about their student's spiritual development

Among Student Leaders

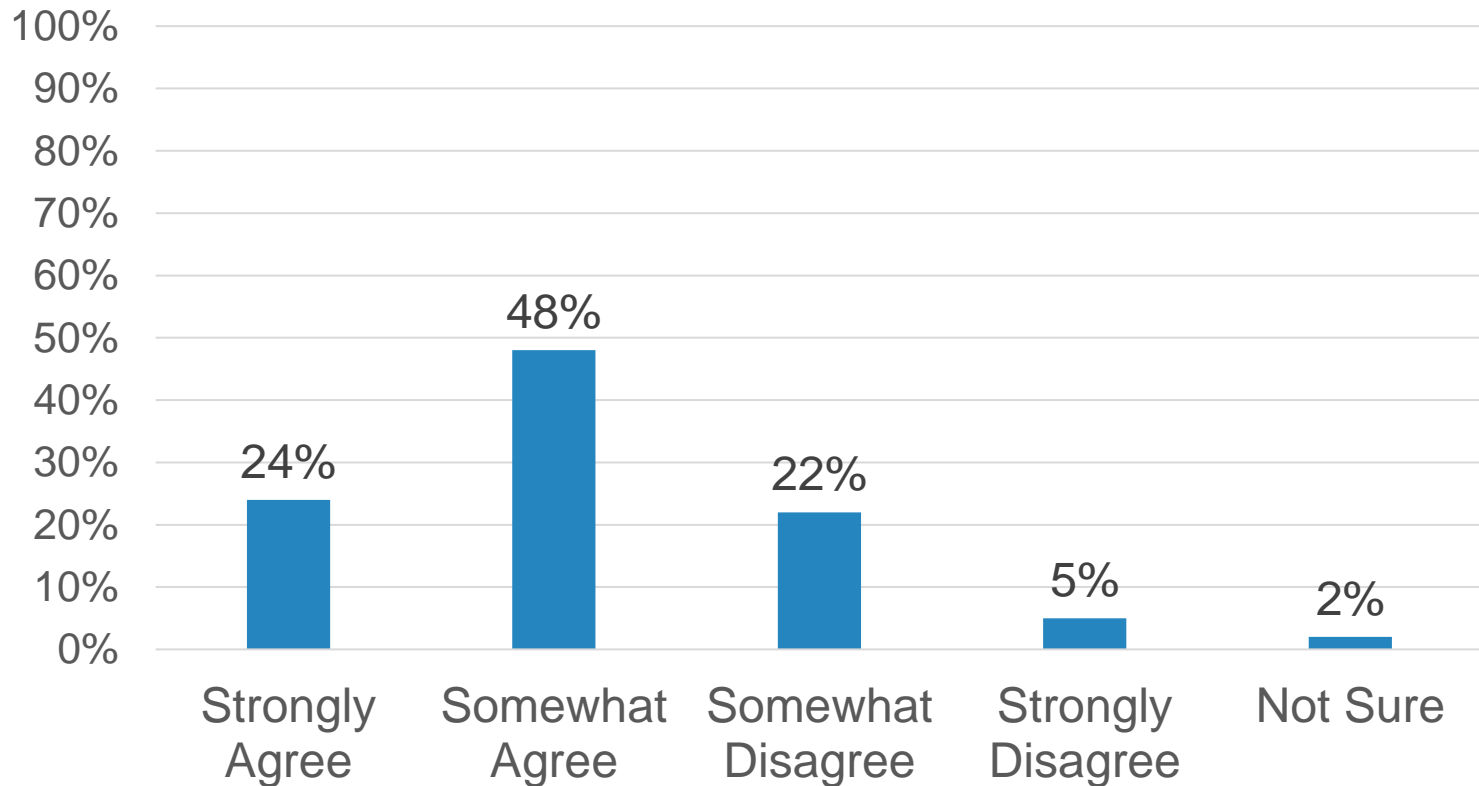


Lifeway research

Q13: "Parents in our church are concerned about their student's spiritual development." n=1,056

71% say parents in their church are proactive in encouraging their student to engage in the Christian faith

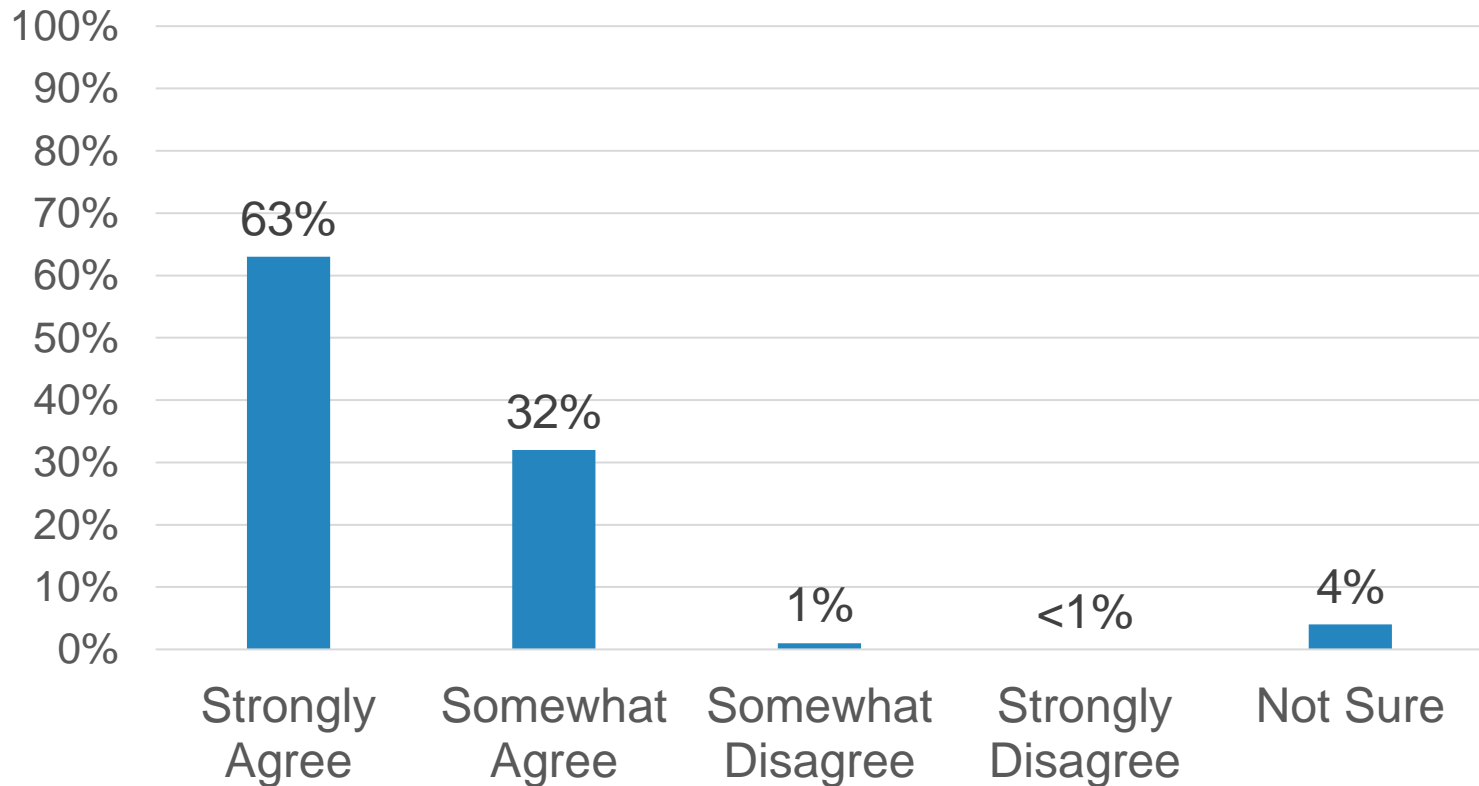
Among Student Leaders



Lifeway research

95% want to become more equipped to help parents invest in their student's spiritual development

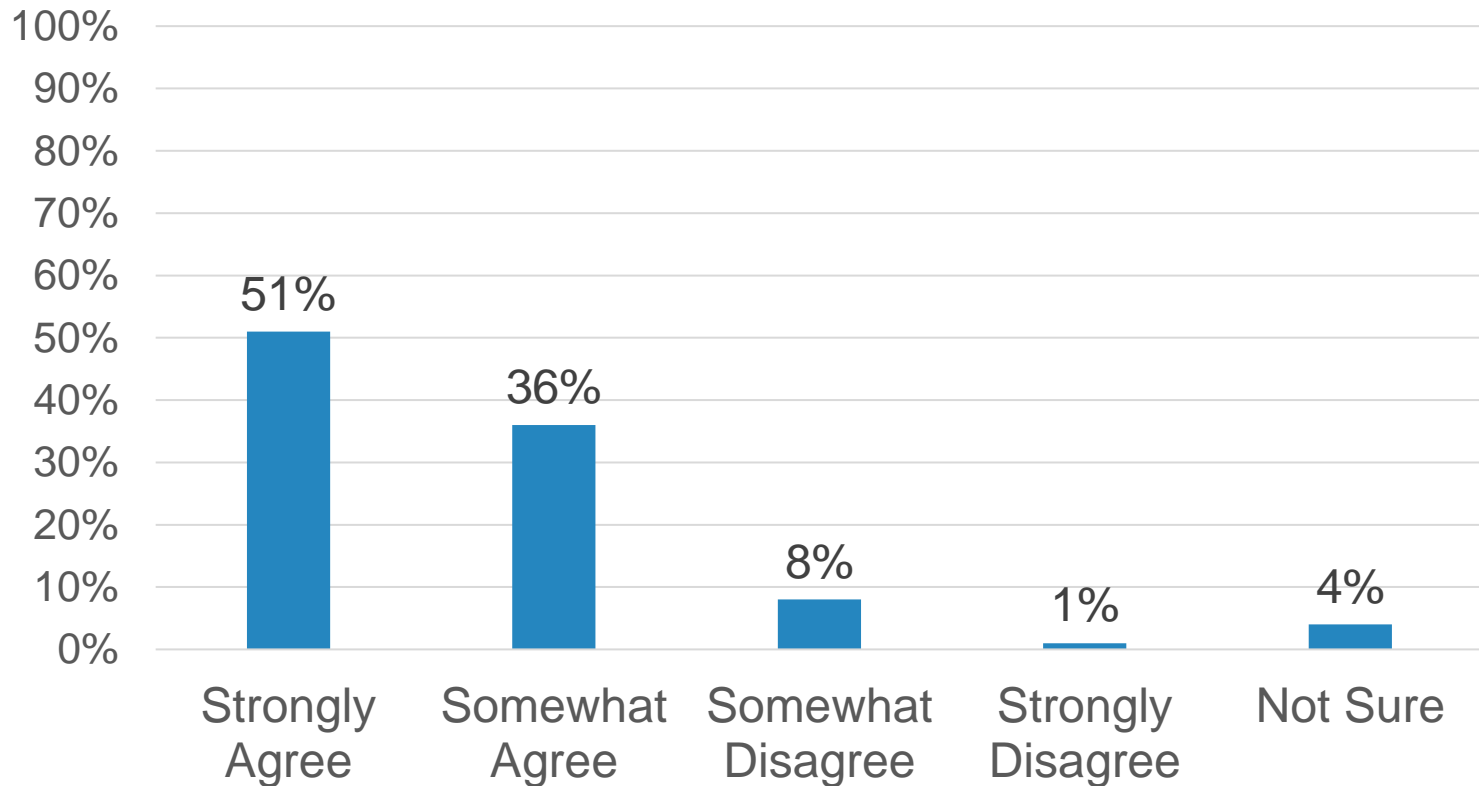
Among Student Leaders



Lifeway research

87% are eager to pass along good resources to parents to encourage their student spiritually

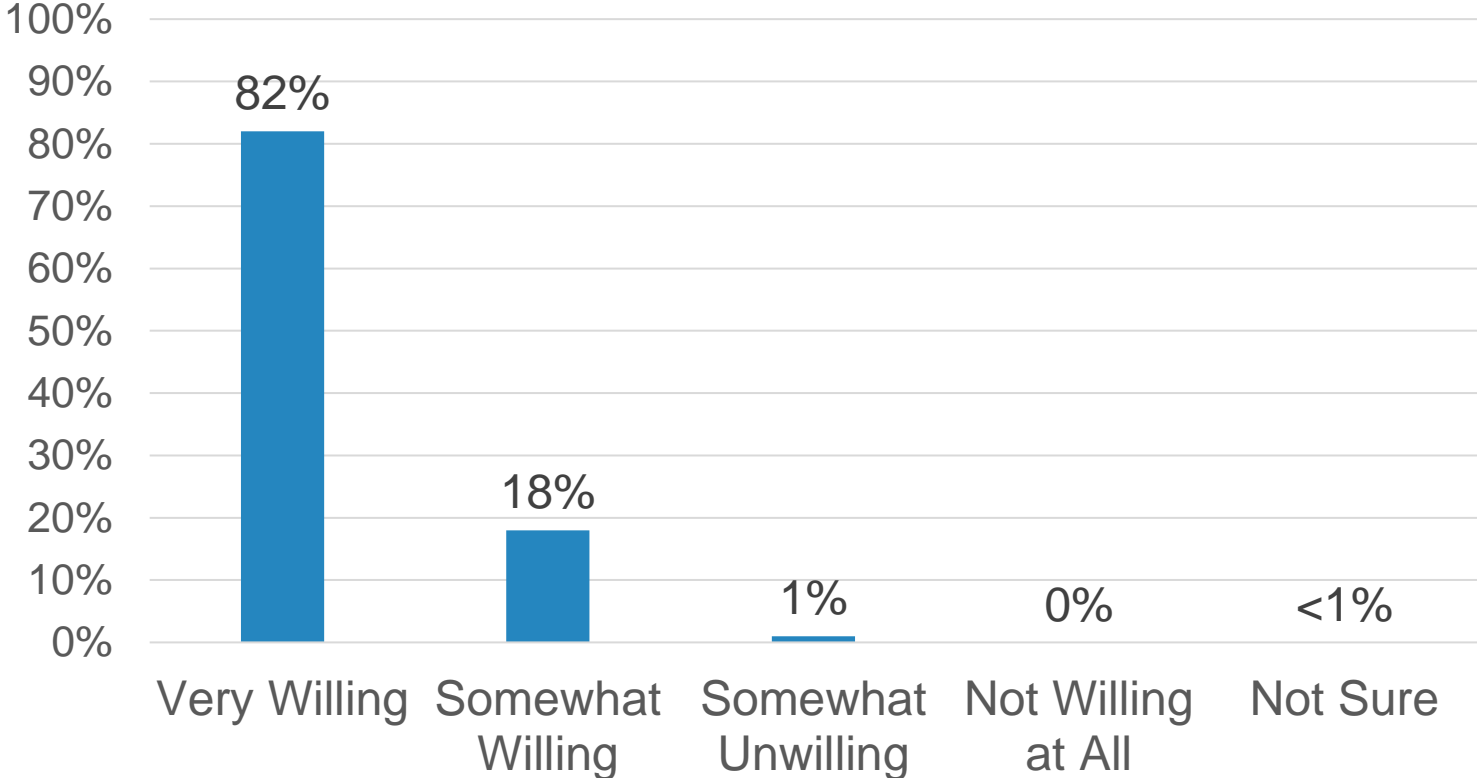
Among Student Leaders



Lifeway research

99% are willing to partner with parents of students in their church to help students grow spiritually

Among Student Leaders



Lifeway research

Q18: "How willing are you to partner with parents of students in your church to help students grow spiritually? (Select One)" n=1,056

Reasons Student Leaders are willing to partner with parents

Parents have the most influence/spend the most time with their children	22%
Parents are the primary disciple makers	17%
Spiritual growth/salvation of students and parents	17%
Discipleship/spiritual growth begins at home	9%
Partnership with parents/Help equip parents	7%
Biblical responsibility of the parents	5%
Important for the students	5%
It is the most biblical/effective model	4%
Students are the future of the church	4%
To build relationships	4%
It is my calling/role	2%
To grow God's Kingdom	1%
What we are called to do	1%
Deuteronomy 6	<1%
Discipleship is my passion	<1%
Don't know/Not sure	<1%

Reasons Student Leaders who are unwilling to partner are not more willing to partner with parents

Age/Too young

Intimidated by parents

Don't feel qualified

Parents have little to do with student's spiritual development

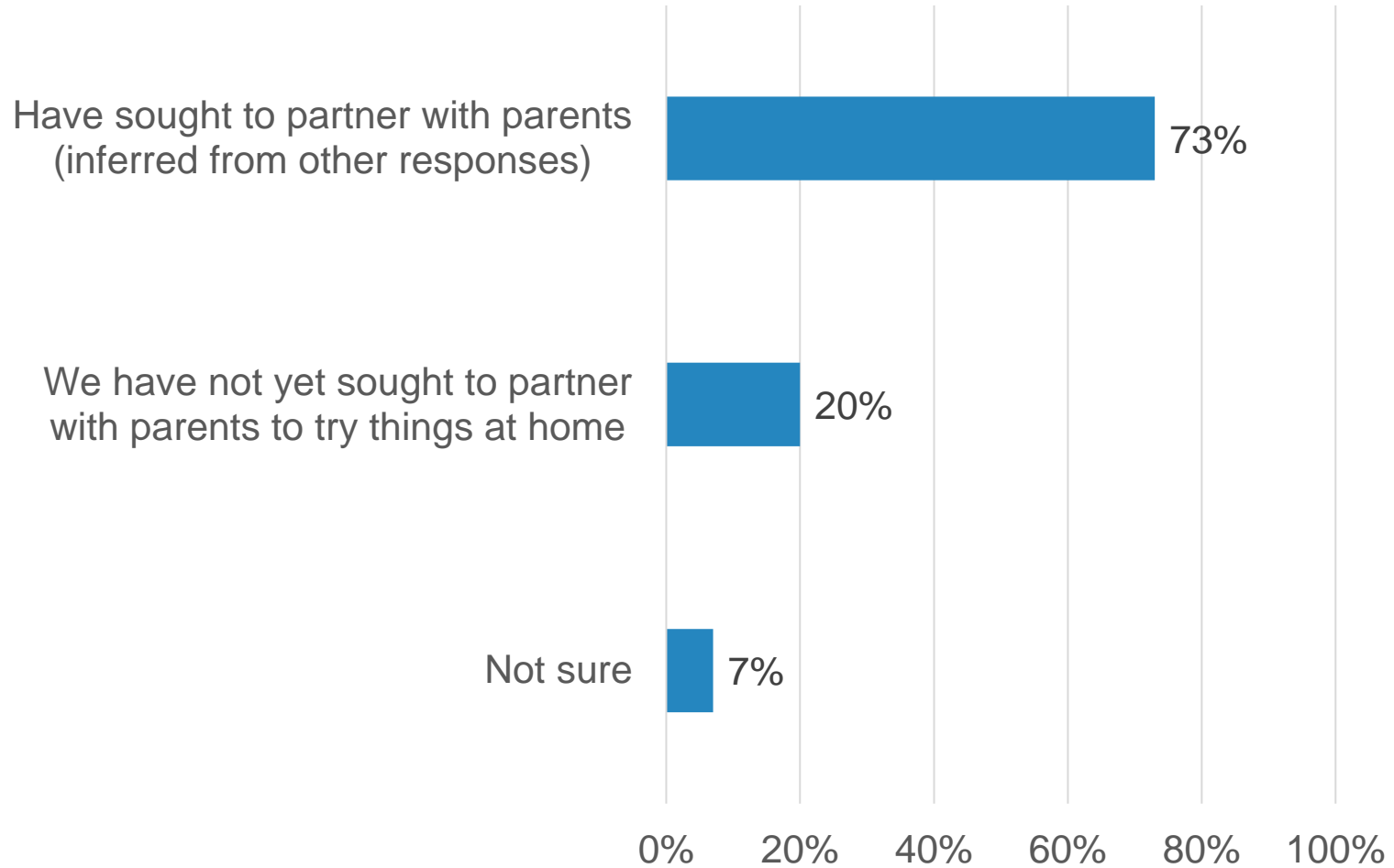
Unrealistic to add another program

More inclined to handle it on my own

Lifeway research

Most Student Leaders have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home

Among Student Leaders

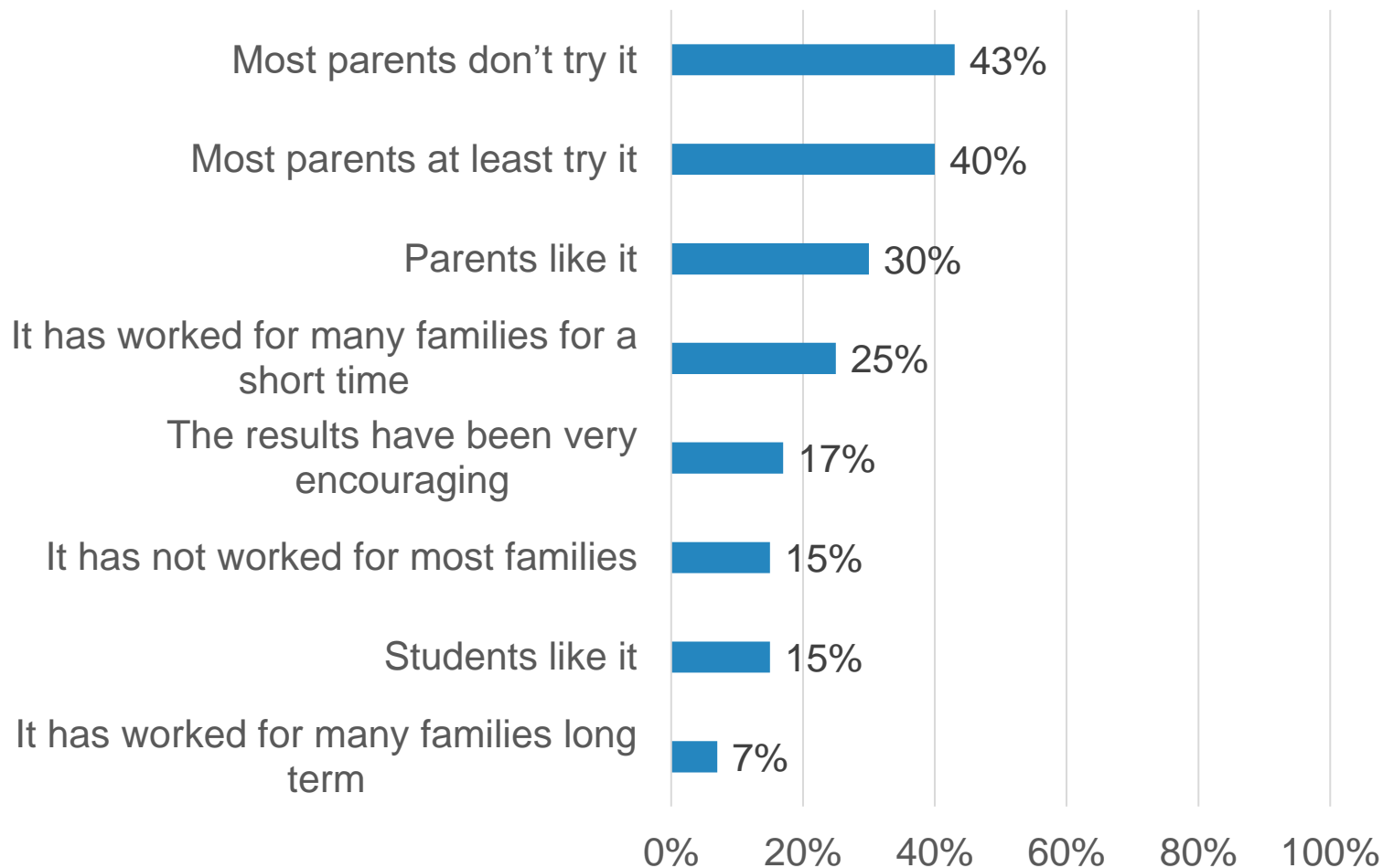


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Q21: "When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result? (Select all that apply)" n=1,056

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

Among Student Leaders who have sought to partner with parents

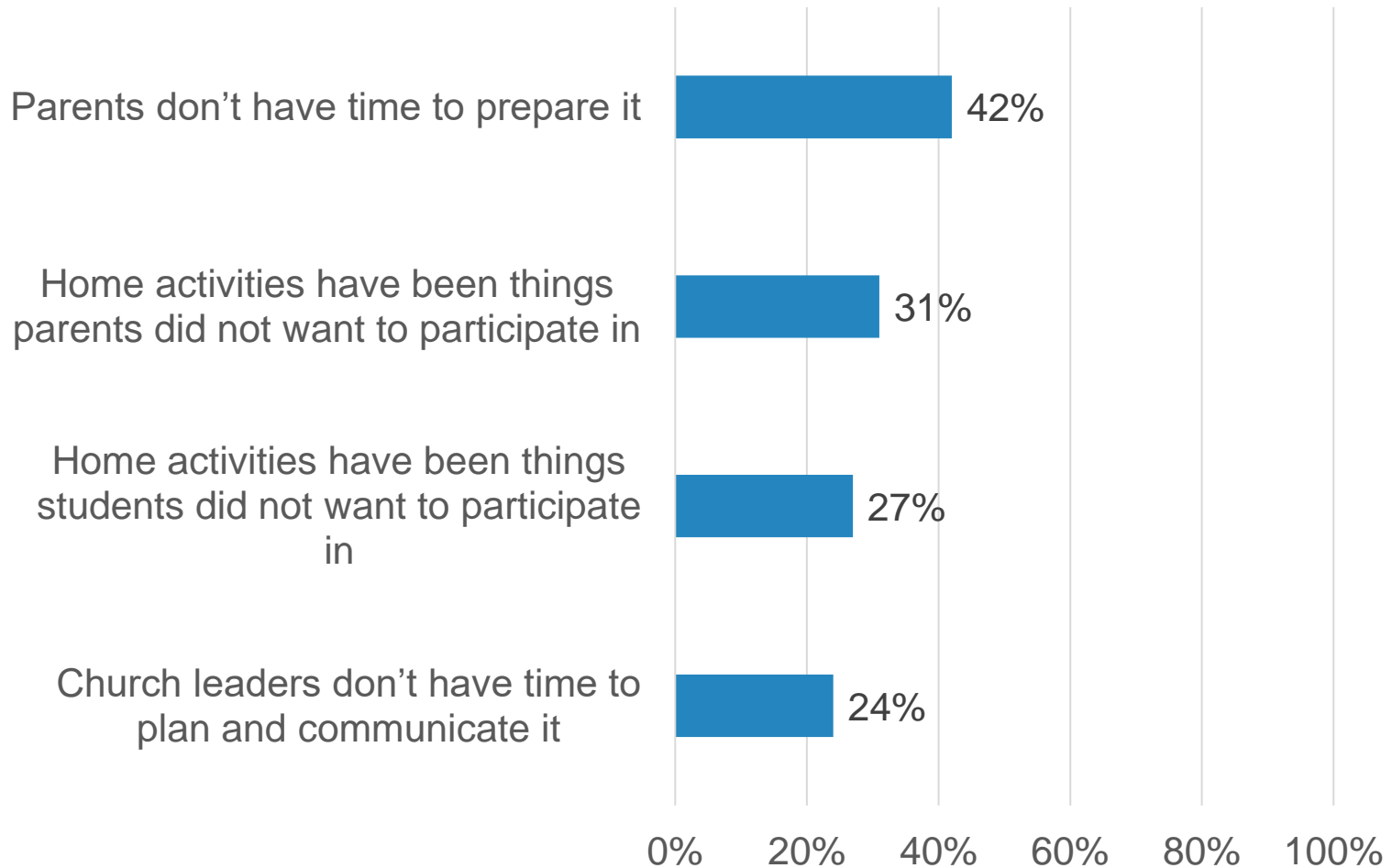


Lifewayresearch

Q21: “When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result? (Select all that apply)” n=797

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

Among Student Leaders

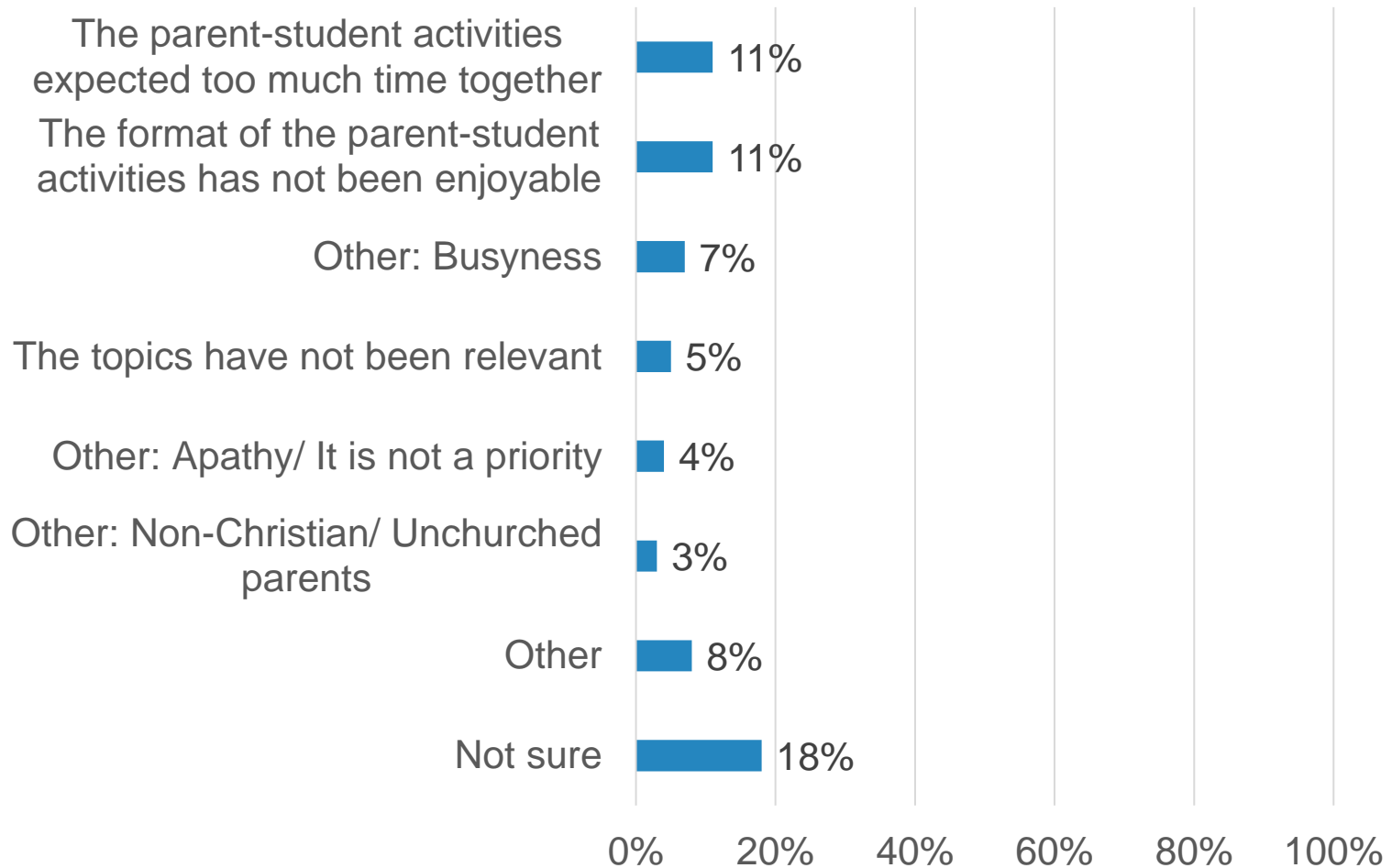


Lifeway research

Q22: “Which, if any, of these **challenges** have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development? (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?” *continued*

Among Student Leaders

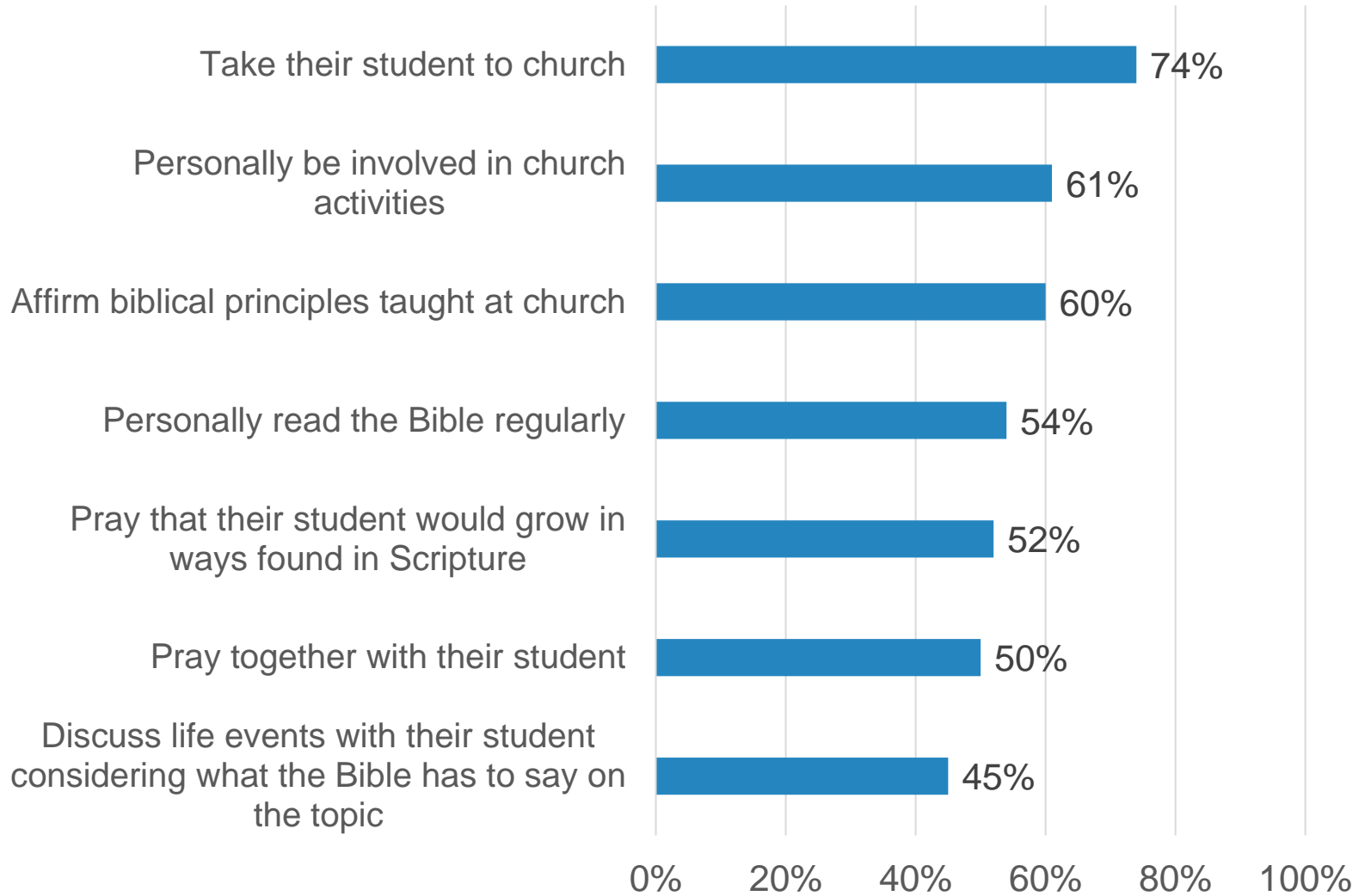


Lifeway research

Q22: “Which, if any, of these **challenges** have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development? (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Among Student Leaders

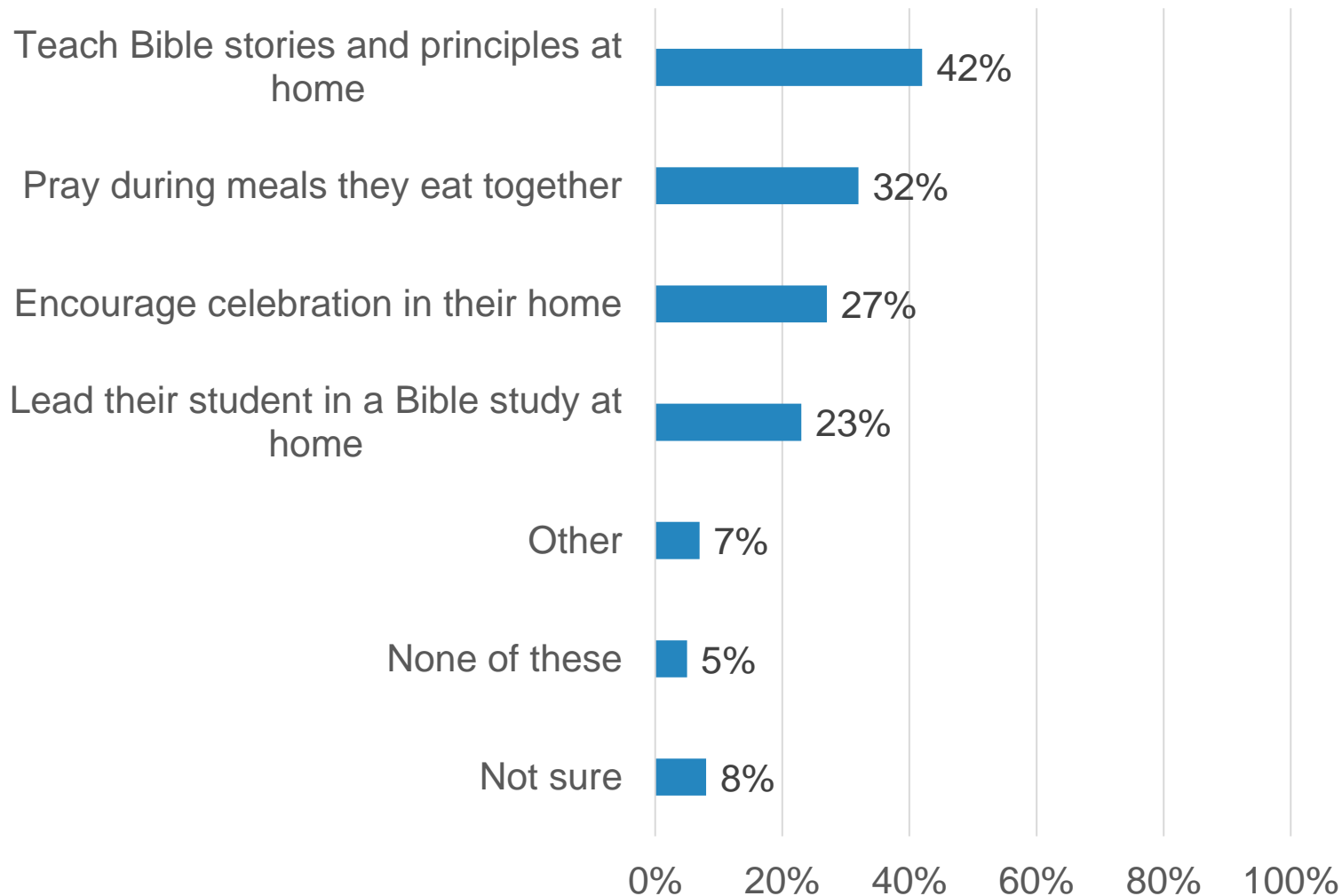


Lifeway research

Q23: “Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students? (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?” *continued*

Among Student Leaders

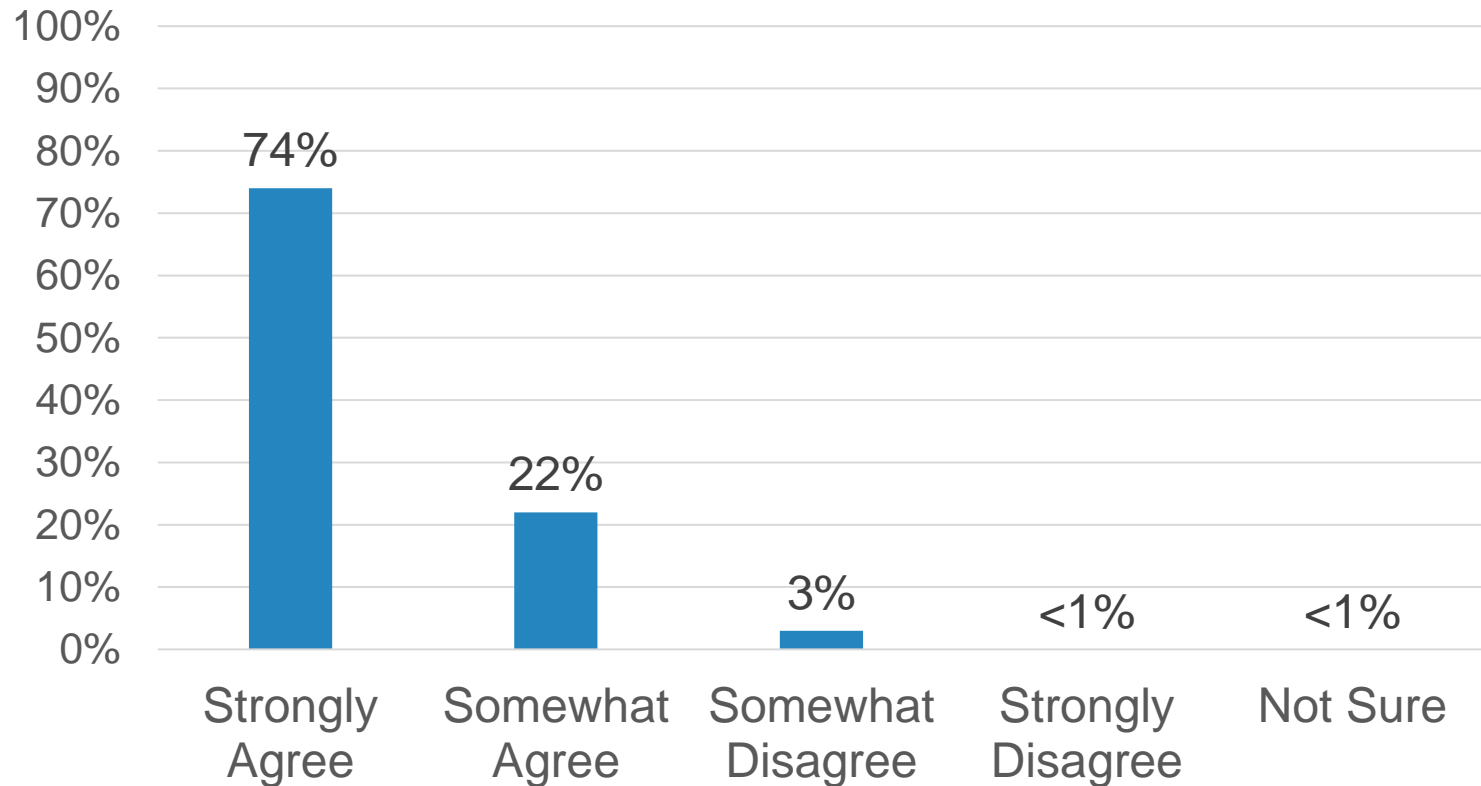


Lifeway research

Q23: “Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students? (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

96% say they have the support of their church

Among Student Leaders

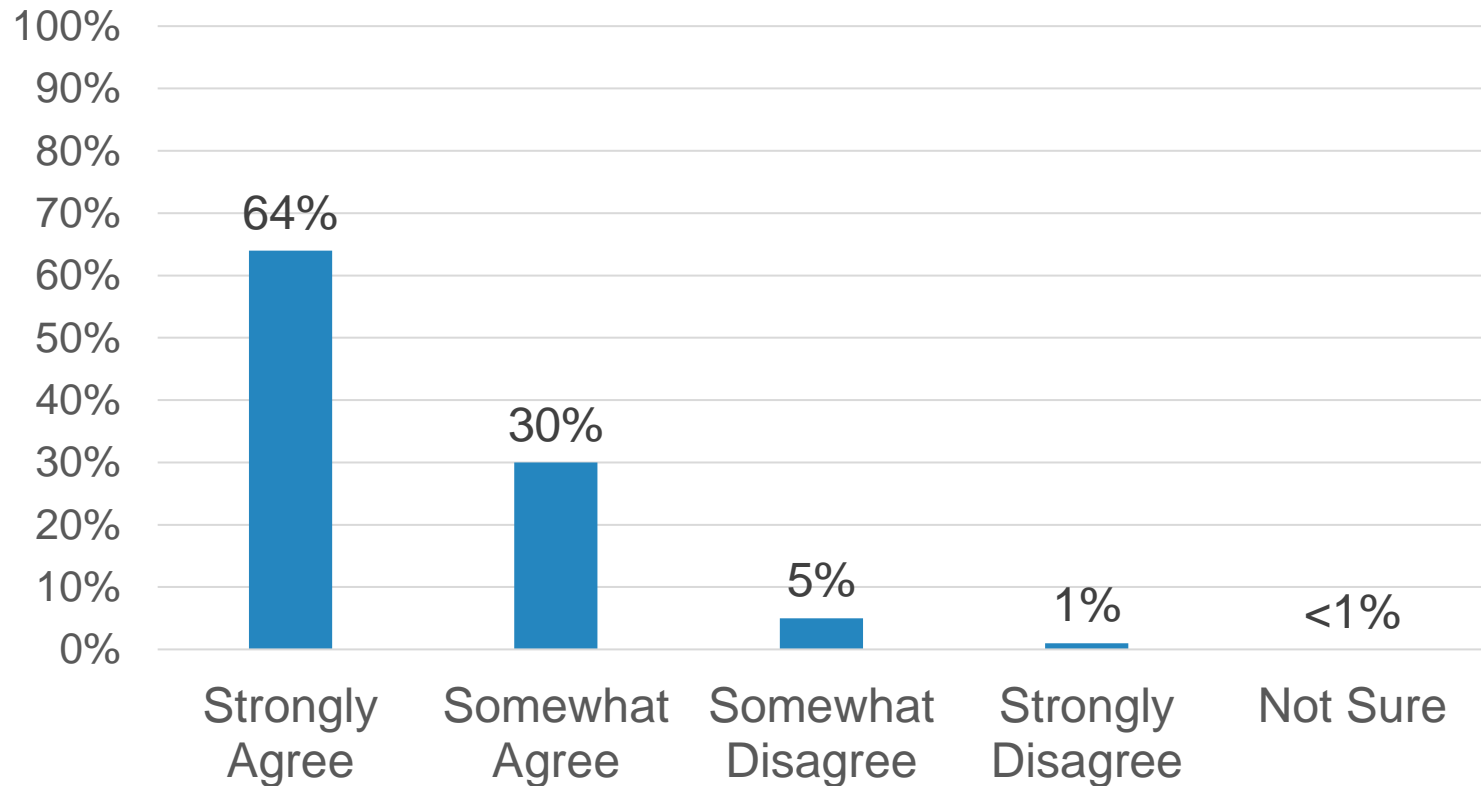


Lifewayresearch

Q24: "I have the support of the church." n=1,056

93% believe their role is seen as essential to the church

Among Student Leaders

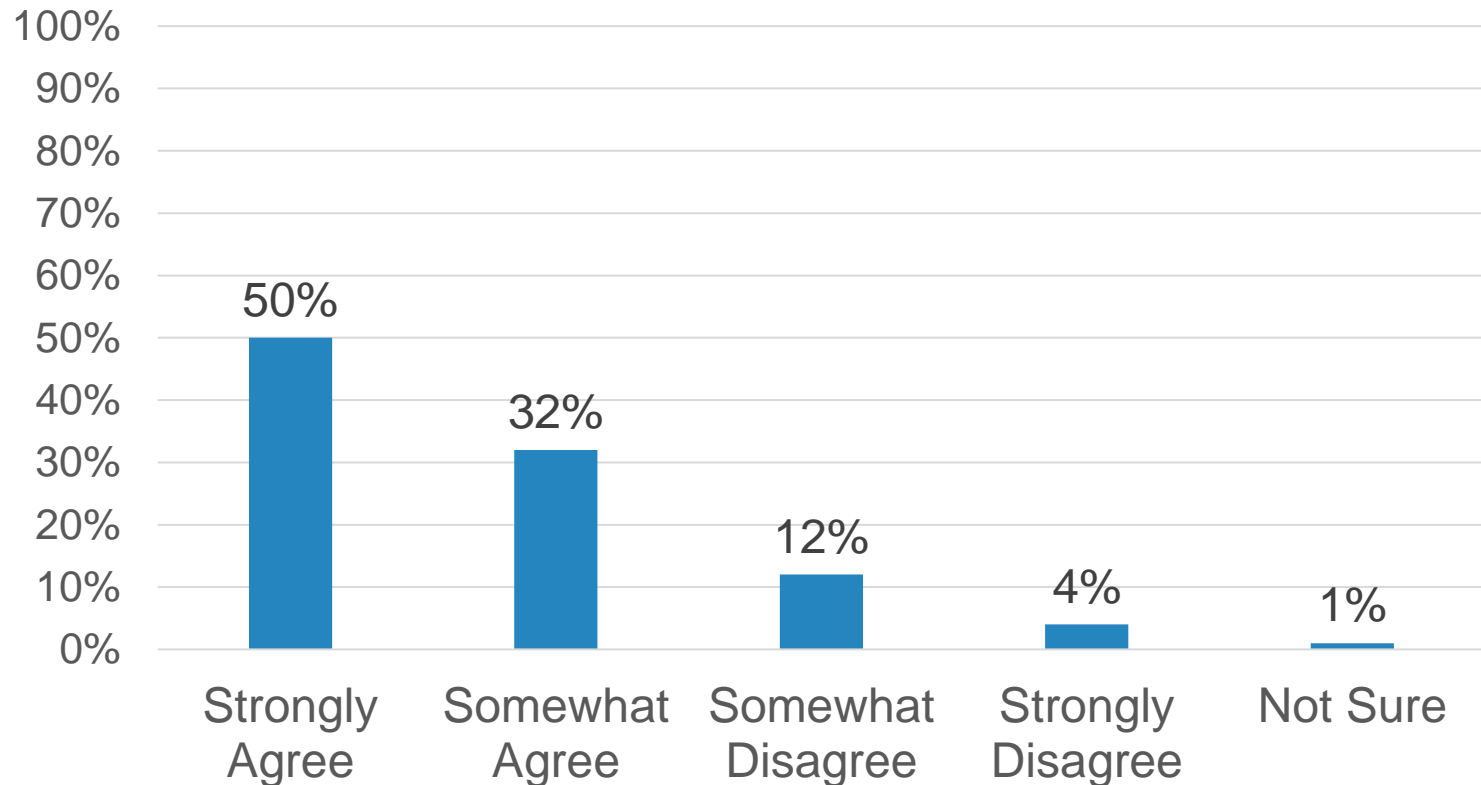


Lifewayresearch

Q25: "My role is seen as essential to the church." n=1,056

83% say their church provides sufficient financial support for the student ministry

Among Student Leaders

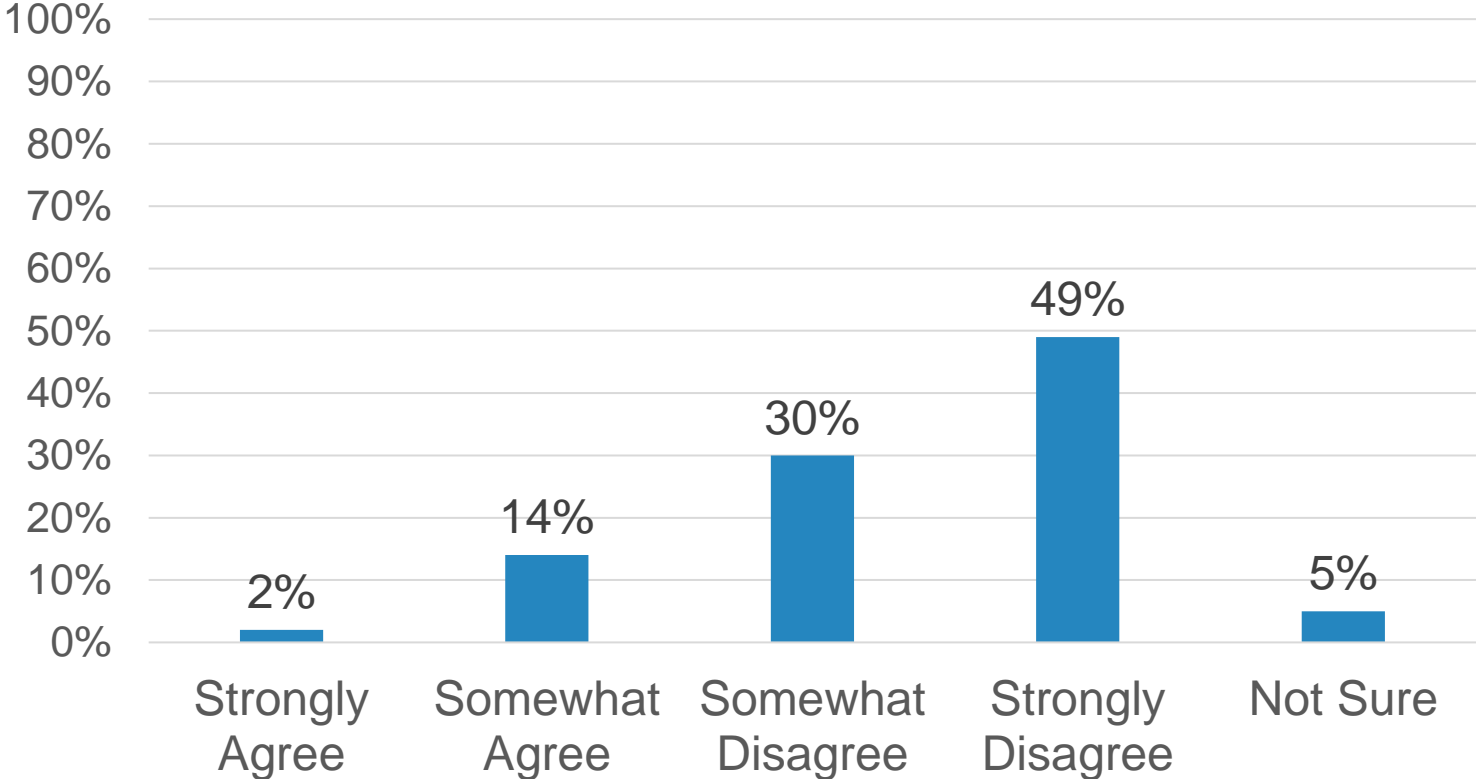


Lifewayresearch

Q26: "The church provides sufficient financial support for the student ministry." n=1,056

16% feel tension with parents of students and 79% do not

Among Student Leaders

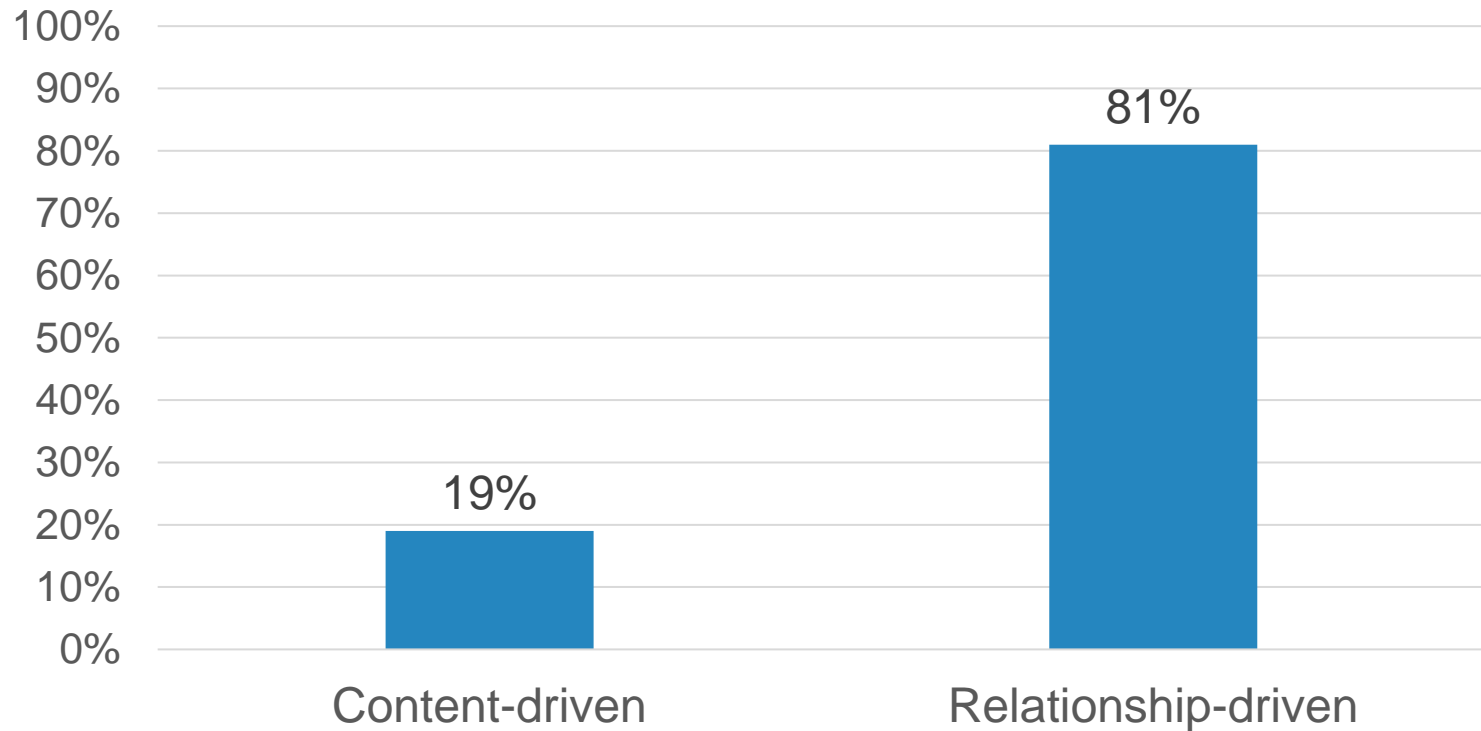


Lifeway research

Q27: "I feel tension with parents of students in our ministry." n=1,056

81% say their interactions with parents are relationship-driven

Among Student Leaders

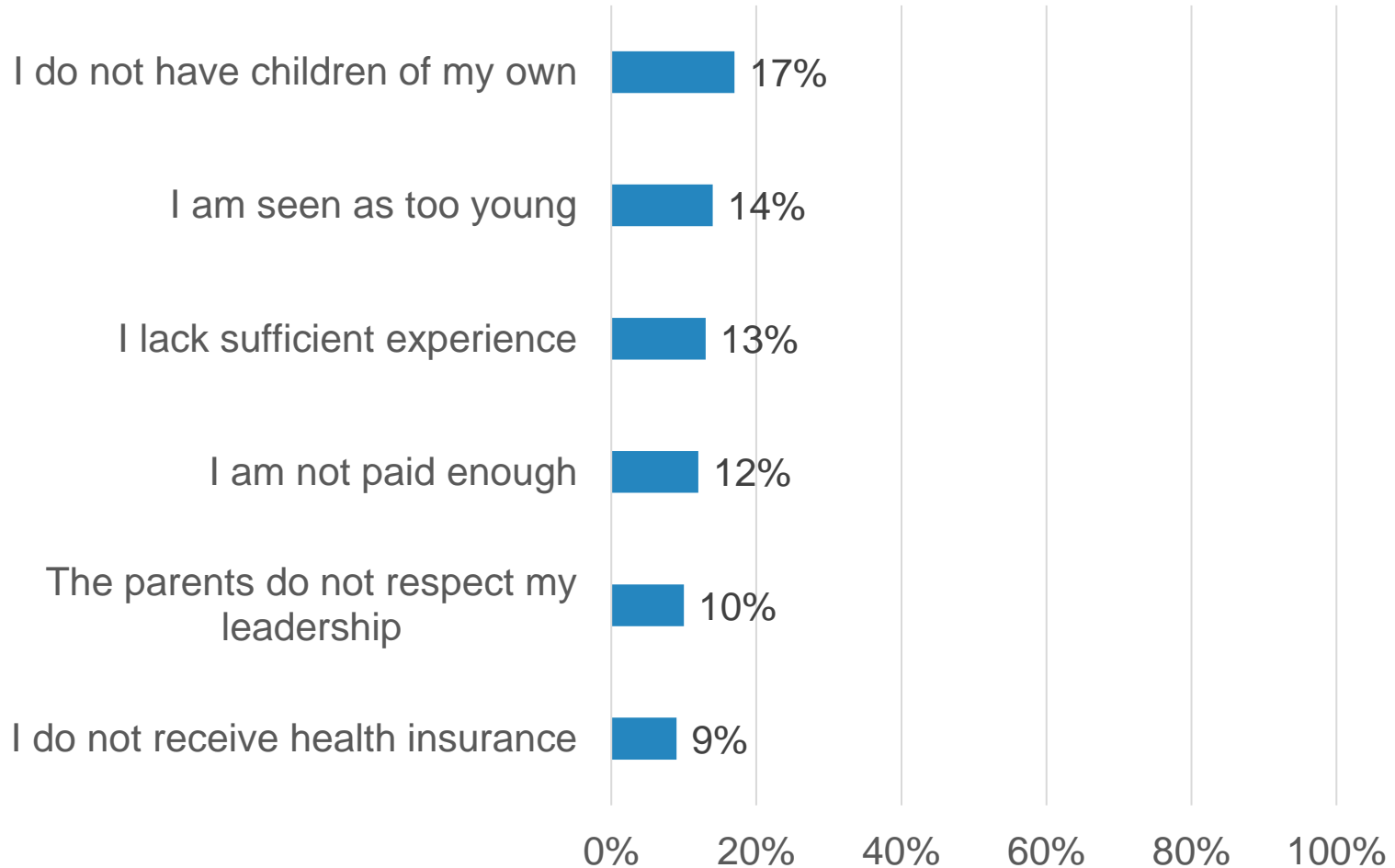


Lifewayresearch

Q28: "I would describe my interaction with parents as more ... (Select One)" n=1,056

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

Among Student Leaders

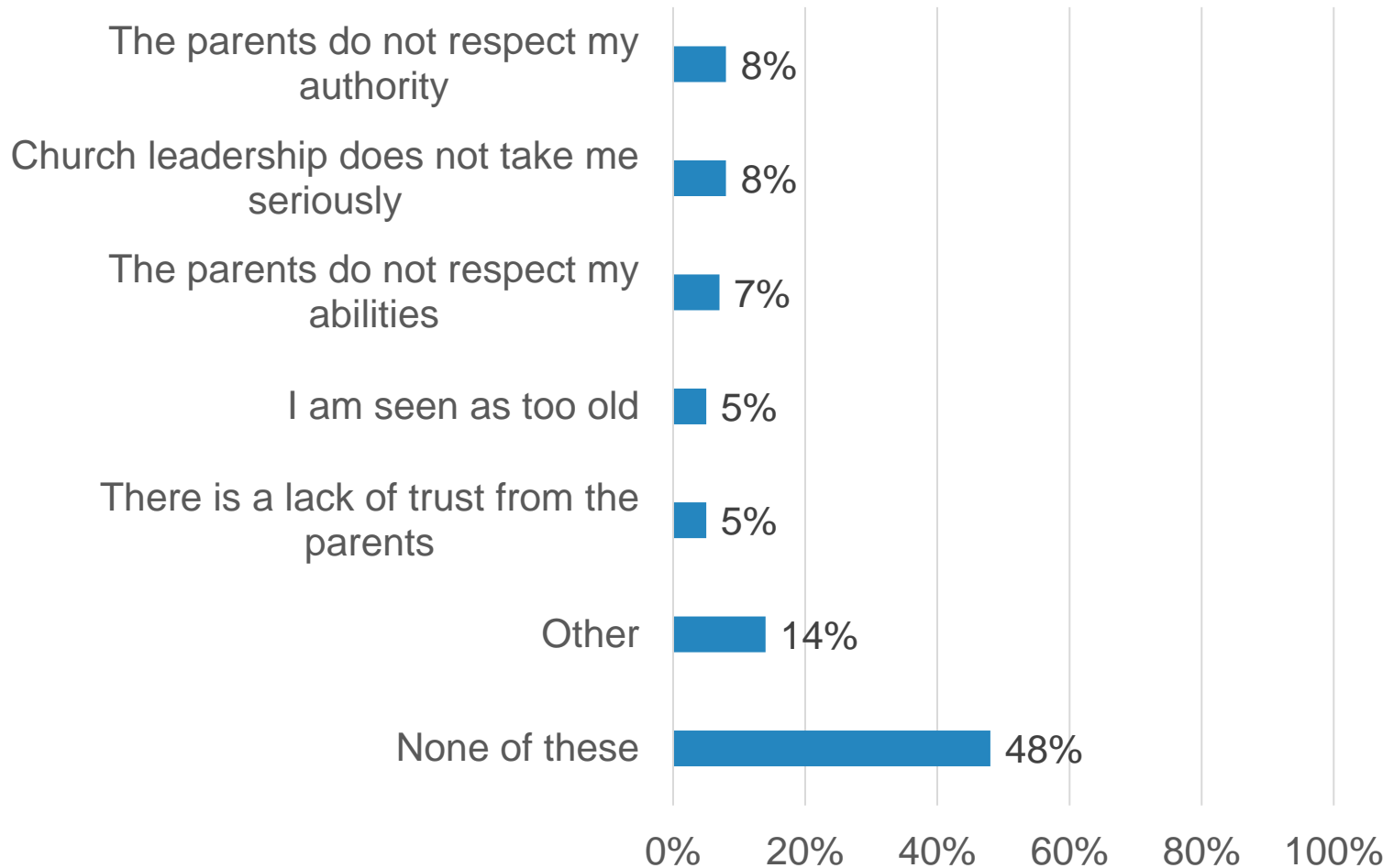


Lifewayresearch

Q29: “I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life. (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.” *continued*

Among Student Leaders

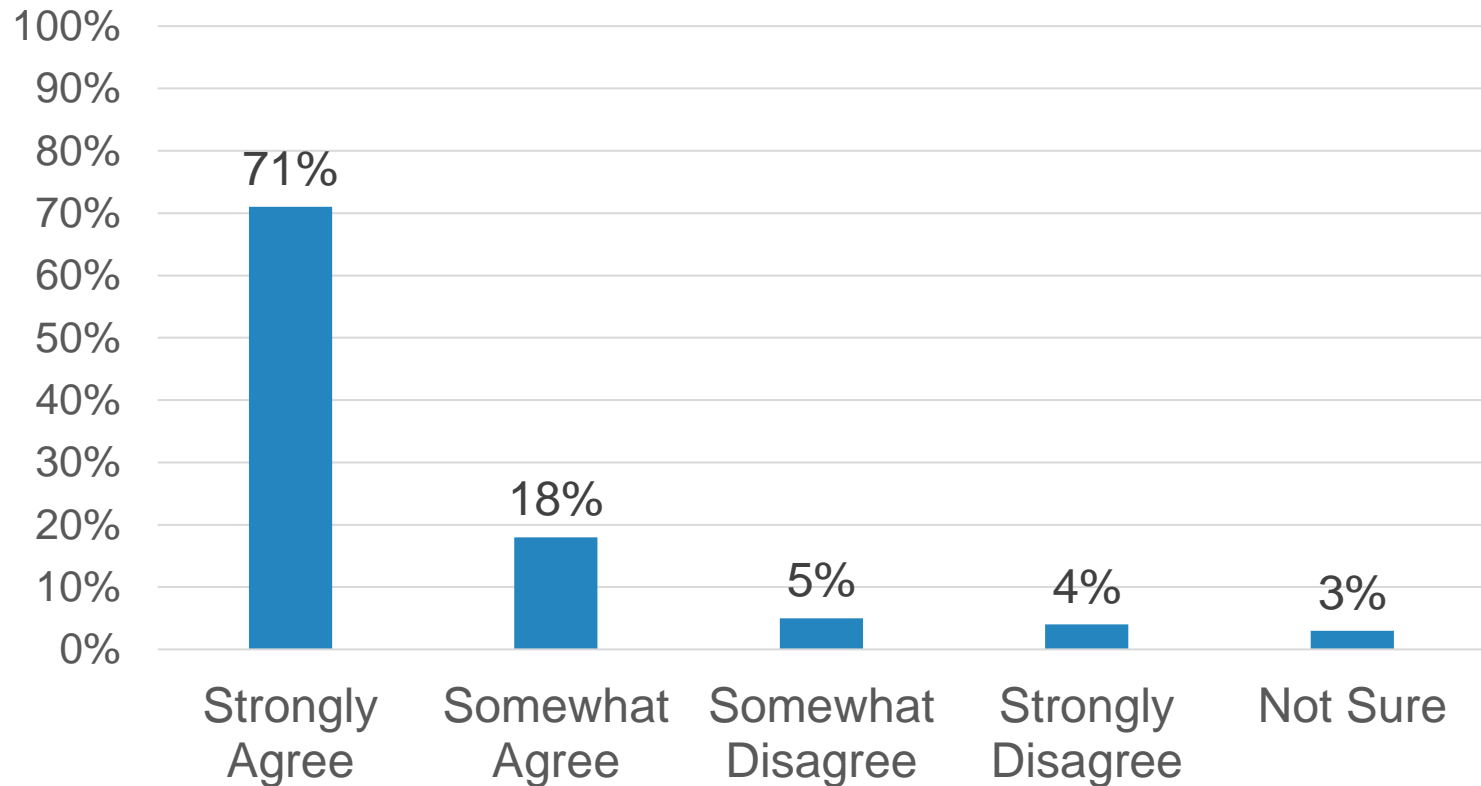


Lifewayresearch

Q29: “I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life. (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

89% agree they can bring their concerns to their senior pastor

Among Student Leaders

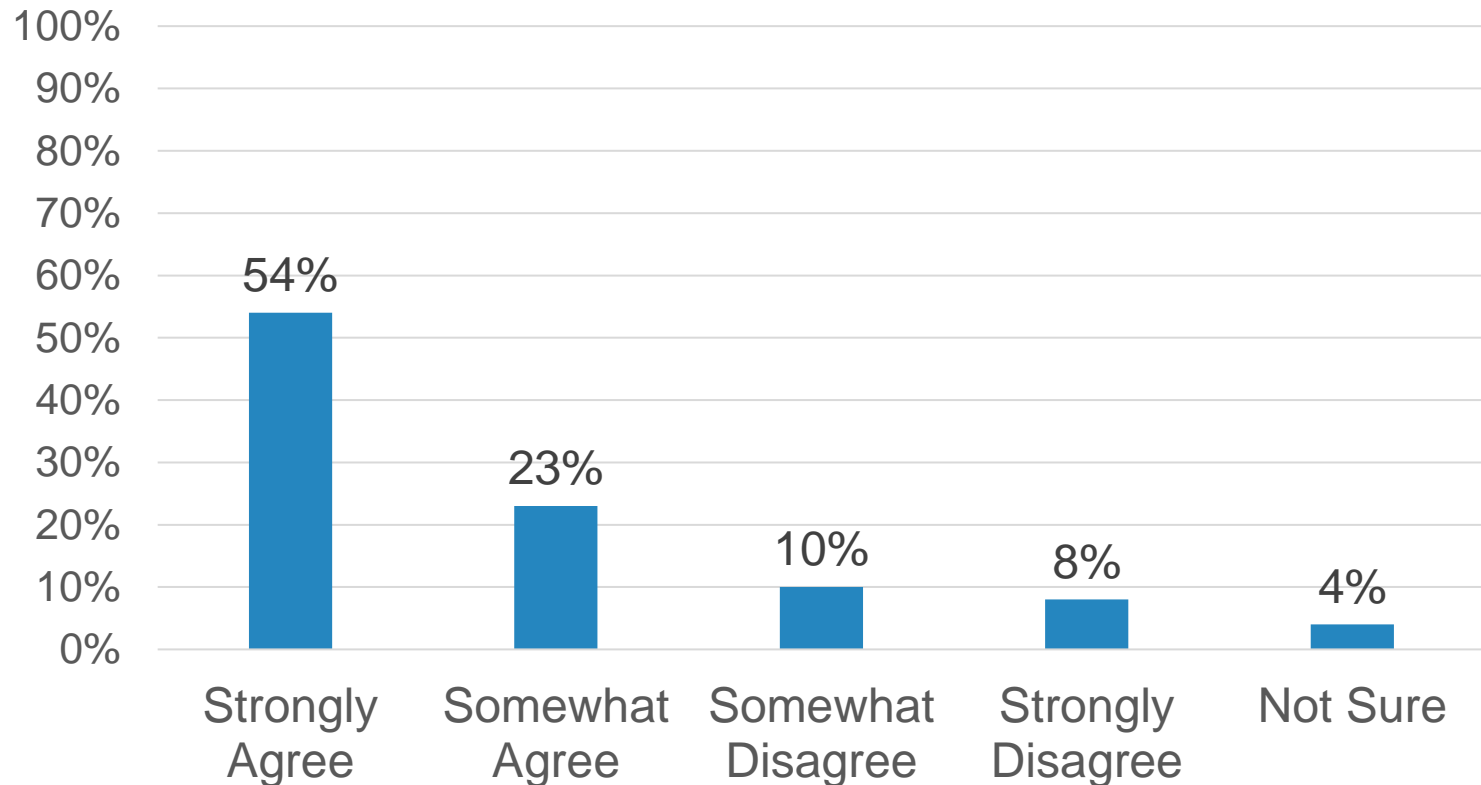


Lifewayresearch

Q30: "I can bring concerns to my senior pastor." n=1,056

77% agree their senior pastor is engaged in their development as a ministry leader

Among Student Leaders

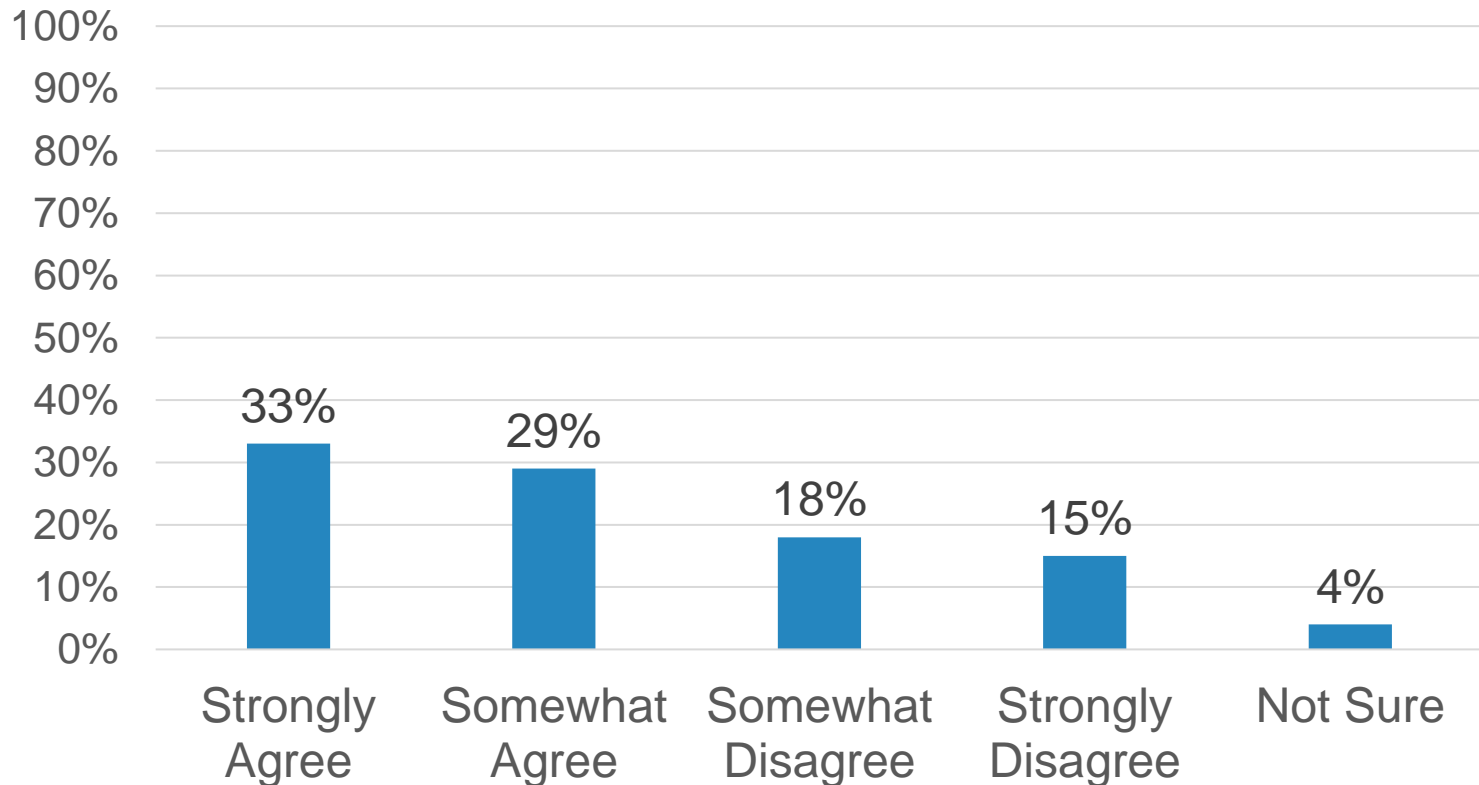


Lifewayresearch

Q31: "My senior pastor is engaged in my development as a ministry leader." n=1,056

63% agree their senior pastor recommends resources for their development

Among Student Leaders

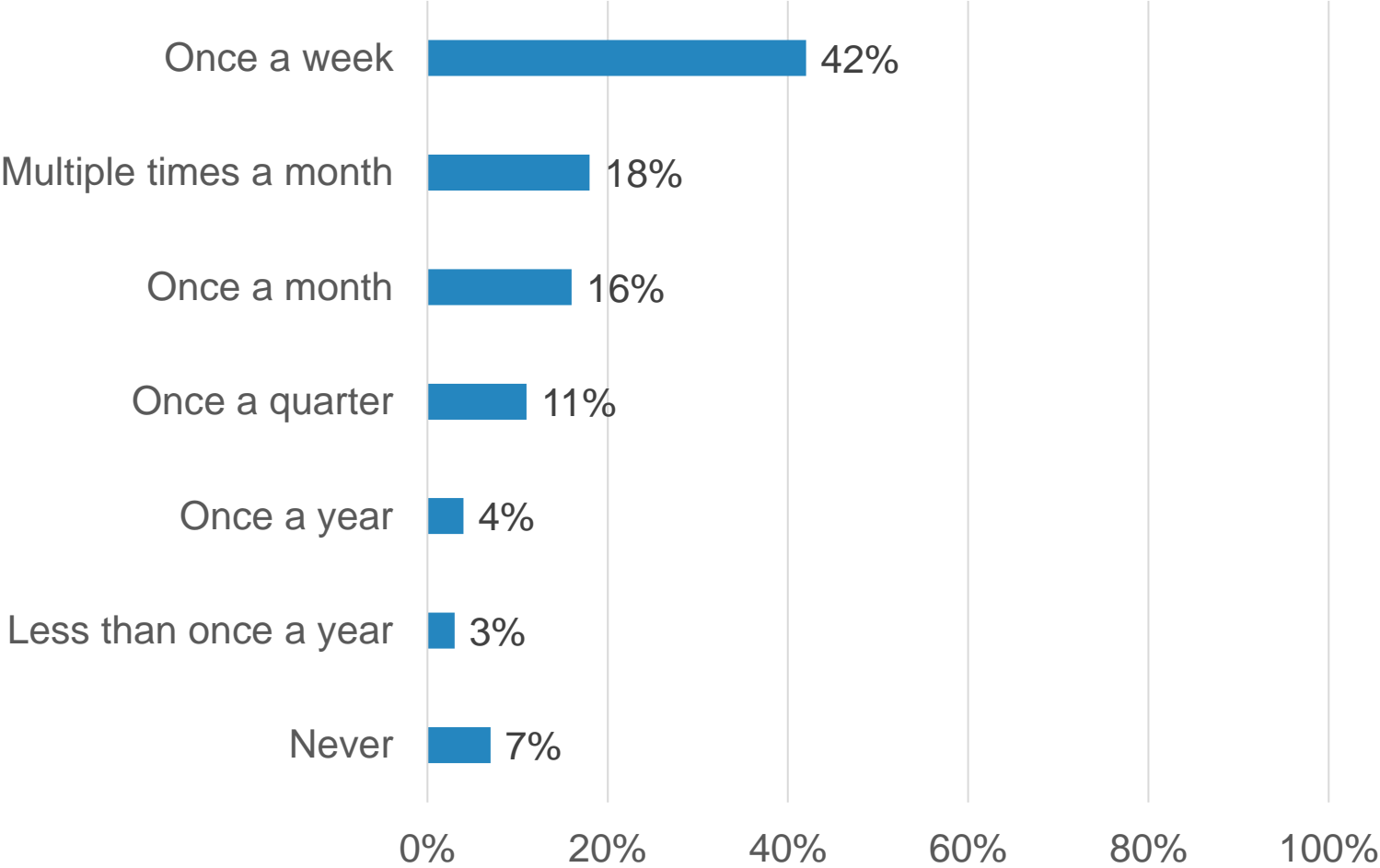


Lifewayresearch

Q32: "My senior pastor recommends resources for my development" n=1,056

42% meet with their senior pastor once a week

Among Student Leaders

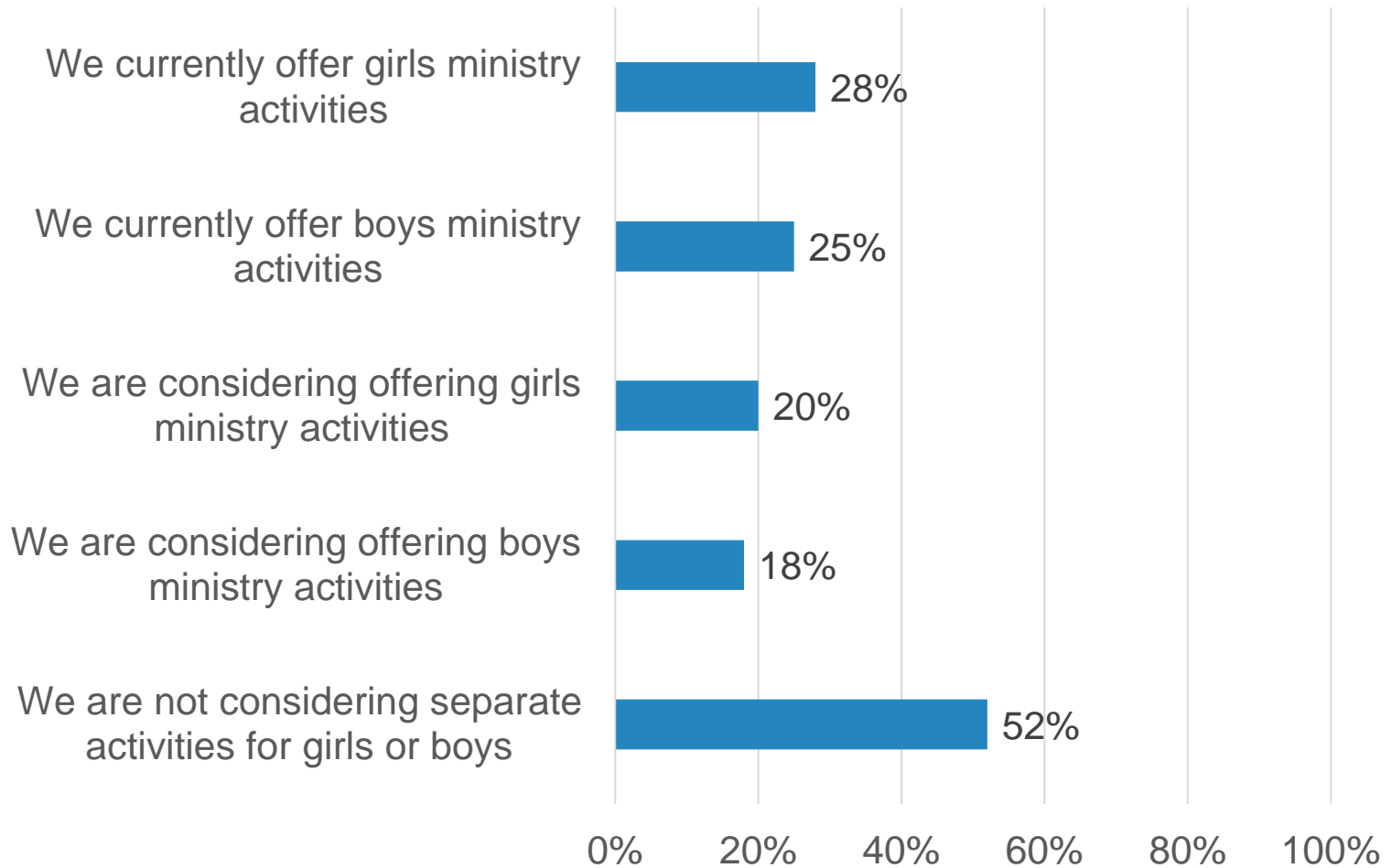


Lifeway research

Q33: "About how often do you meet with the senior pastor? (Select One)" n=1,056

“Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry?”

Among Student Leaders

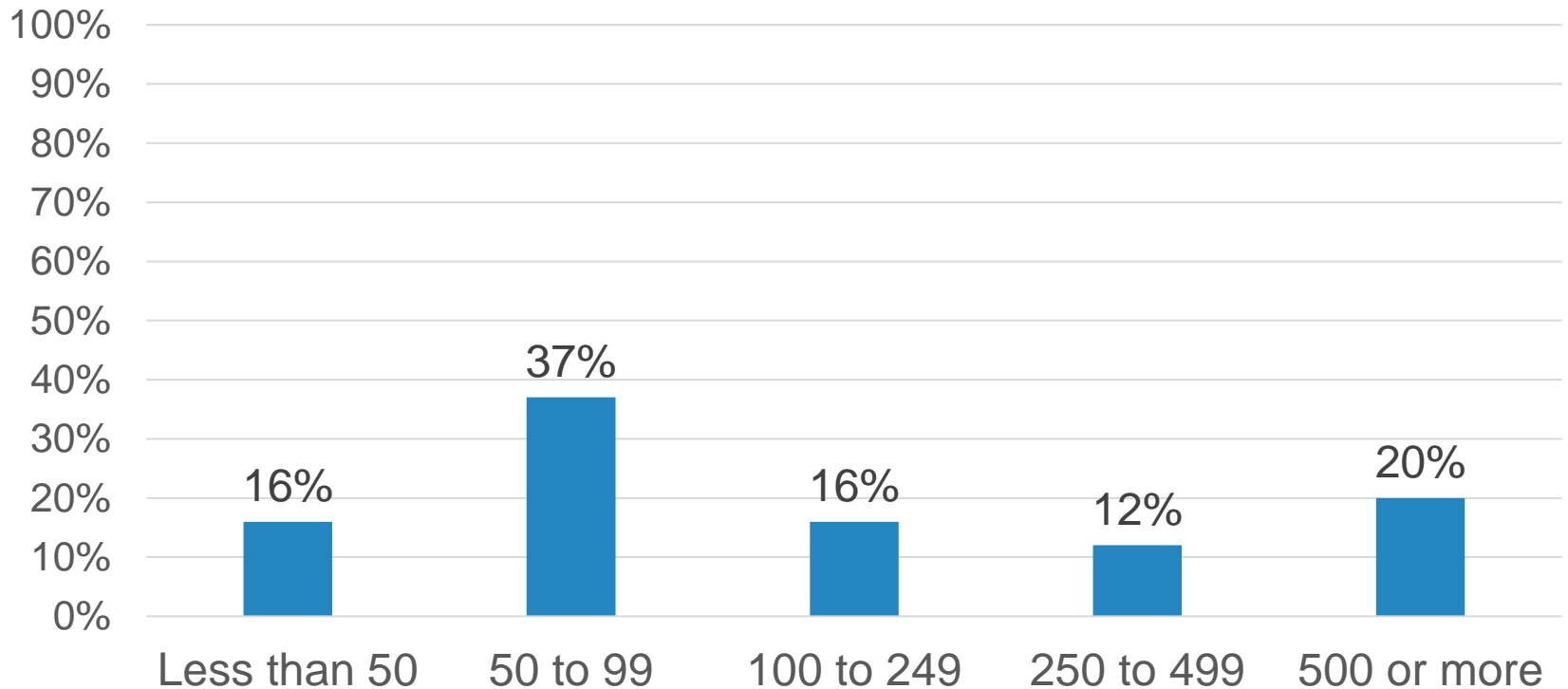


Lifeway research

Q35: “Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry? (Select all that apply)” n=1,056

Average worship attendance of participating churches

Among Student Leaders



Lifewayresearch

Q37: "What is your church's average worship attendance on a typical weekend (including all ages from babies to adults but not counting anyone twice)? If you are not sure, please make your best estimate." n=1,056

Significant Differences

Region

Age

Gender

Ethnicity

Education Level

Average Attendance

Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among region, age, gender, ethnicity, education, and church's attendance.

REGION	AGE	GENDER	ETHNICITY	EDUCATION	ATTENDANCE
Northeast <small>(Sample too small to report)</small>	18-29	Male	White	High School Graduate or less	Less than 50
South	30-49	Female	African American <small>(Sample too small to report)</small>	Some college	50-99
Midwest	50+		Hispanic	Bachelor's Degree	100-249
West			Other Ethnicities	Graduate Degree	250-499
					500 or more

Note: Region is defined by the US Census locations

“On average, how many hours a week do you spend in your student ministry leadership role?”

- Those in the West (39%) are more likely to select “Less than 10 hours” than those in the South (27%)
- Those age 50+ (60%) are more likely to select “Less than 10 hours” than those age 18-29 (13%) and 30-49 (28%)
- Females are more likely to select “Less than 10 hours” than males (51% v. 19%)
- Whites (31%) are more likely to select “Less than 10 hours” than Latinos (20%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to select “Less than 10 hours” (73%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (43%) and 500 or more (54%) are more likely to select “40-49 hours” than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (6%), 50 to 99 (5%), and 100-249 (30%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Equip parents with tools to disciple their students

- Those in the Midwest (71%) and South (72%) are more likely to select than those in the West (60%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (80%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (78% v. 53%)
- Whites (72%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (51%) and Other Ethnicities (57%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (34%)
- Those at churches with attendance 100-249 (75%), 250-499 (85%), and 500 or more (80%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (59%) and 50 to 99 (61%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Train parents to disciple their students

- Those in the Midwest (74%) and South (67%) are more likely to select than those in the West (53%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (80%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (77% v. 48%)
- Other Ethnicities (80%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (60%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree are the most likely to select (78%)
- Those at churches with attendance 100-249 (72%), 250-499 (77%), and 500 or more (79%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (54%) and 50 to 99 (60%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Train Bible study leaders of students

- Those age 18-29 (61%) are more likely to select than those age 30-49 (51%) and 50+ (46%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less (67%) are more likely to select than those with some college (45%) or a Graduate Degree (50%)
- Those at churches with attendance 500 or more (59%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (48%) and 50-99 (48%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Share information with parents to keep them aware of new elements of youth culture

- Those in the South (39%) and West (41%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (30%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (51%)
- Hispanics (49%) are more likely to select than Whites (34%)
- Those with some college (47%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (43%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (18%) or with a Graduate Degree (30%)
- Those at churches with attendance 100-249 (42%) and 500 or more (42%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (31%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Offer big events to attract more students

- Those age 30-49 are the least likely to select (30%)
- Females are more likely to select than males (45% v. 26%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree are the least likely to select (24%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the most likely to select (66%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

For parents to grow in their relationships with each other

- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree are the most likely to select (49%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (18%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (47%) and 250-499 (45%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (35%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

For parents and student leaders to grow in their relationships with each other

- Those in the Midwest (51%) and South (48%) are more likely to select than those in the West (38%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree are the most likely to select (55%)

“If you could do it well, which, if any, of the following would you love to see your church’s student ministry do more of this next year?”

Offer girls ministry activities

- Those in the West are the most likely to select (35%)
- Those age 30-49 are the least likely to select (19%)
- Other Ethnicities (36%) are more likely to select than Whites (22%) and Hispanics (14%)
- Those with some college (29%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (25%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (12%)

“I feel inadequate to train or equip parents to lead their student spiritually.”

- Those age 18-29 (42%) are more likely to Agree than those age 30-49 (25%) and 50+ (30%)
- Females are more likely to Agree than males (42% v. 22%)
- Hispanics (41%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (29%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to Agree (56%)
- Those at churches with attendance less than 50 are the most likely to Agree (52%)

“I believe the parents in our church don’t want me to provide them with resources for encouraging their student’s spiritual growth.”

- Those in the Midwest (67%) and South (72%) are more likely to Disagree than those in the West (56%)
- Those age 18-29 (24%) and 30-49 (27%) are more likely to Agree than those age 50+ (13%)
- Whites (71%) are more likely to Disagree than Hispanics (52%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to Disagree (86%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (29%) are more likely to Agree than those at churches with attendance of 500 or more (19%)

“I have a clearly defined strategy for ministering to parents.”

- Those in the South (41%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (31%)
- Those age 18-29 (44%) and 30-49 (38%) are more likely to Agree than those age 50+ (28%)
- Males are more likely to Agree than females (47% v. 20%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (47%) are more likely to Agree than those with some college (27%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (36%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 500 or more are the most likely to Agree (57%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 50 to 99 are the least likely to Agree (21%)

“Parents in our church are concerned about their student’s spiritual development.”

- Those age 50+ are the most likely to Agree (84%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (81%) are more likely to Agree than those with some college (73%) or a Bachelor’s Degree (73%)

“Parents in our church are proactive in encouraging their student to engage in the Christian faith.”

- Those in the Midwest (79%) are more likely to Agree than those in the South (68%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less (85%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (68%) or a Graduate Degree (71%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the most likely to Agree (89%)

“I want to become more equipped to help parents invest in their student’s spiritual development.”

- Hispanics are the least likely to Agree (86%) and the most likely to be Not sure (13%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to Agree (83%) and the most likely to be Not sure (15%)

“When I find good resources for parents, I am eager to pass them along to encourage their student spiritually.”

- Those age 30-49 are the most likely to Agree (90%)
- Hispanics (98%) are more likely to Agree than Whites (86%) and Other Ethnicities (87%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree are the least likely to Agree (83%)
- Those at churches with attendance 50-99 (92%) and 250-499 (94%) are more likely to Agree than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (80%), 100-249 (80%), and 500 or more (86%)

“How willing are you to partner with parents of students in your church to help students grow spiritually?”

- No meaningful significant differences

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

Most parents don't try it

- Those in the West (42%) are more likely to select than those in the West (28%)
- Those with some college (35%) or a Graduate Degree (36%) are more likely to select than those with a Bachelor's Degree (26%)
- Those at churches with attendance 100-249 (34%), 250-499 (37%), and 500 or more (33%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (23%)

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

Most parents at least try it

- Those in the Midwest (37%) are more likely to select than those in the South (28%) and West (27%)
- Those age 50+ are the most likely to select (40%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (33% v. 21%)

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

The results have been very encouraging

- No meaningful significant differences

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

Parents like it

- Males are more likely to select than females (28% v. 11%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (5%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (31%) and 500 or more (38%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (12%), 50-99 (17%), and 100-249 (16%)

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

Students like it

- Those in the South (12%) and West (16%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (4%)
- Those age 50+ are the most likely to select (18%)

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

It has worked for many families long term

- No meaningful significant differences

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

It has worked for many families for a short time

- Males are more likely to select than females (22% v. 11%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (21%) or a Graduate Degree (22%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (4%) or with some college (9%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (30%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (14%), 50-99 (16%), and 100-249 (14%)

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

It has not worked for most families

- Those in the South (14%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (9%) and West (4%)

“When you have sought to partner with parents to encourage spiritual activities at home, what has been the result?”

We have not yet sought to partner with parents to try things at home

- Those in the South (22%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (14%) and West (11%)
- Those age 18-29 (29%) are more likely to select than those age 30-49 (17%)
- Females are more likely to select than males (32% v. 14%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less (37%) or with some college (29%) are more likely to select than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (20%) or with a Graduate Degree (12%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the most likely to select (33%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

Church leaders don’t have time to plan and communicate it

- Those in the South (23%) and West (27%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (17%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (34%)
- Hispanics (35%) are more likely to select than Whites (23%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree are the most likely to select (30%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

Parents don’t have time to prepare it

- Those age 30-49 (42%) and 50+ (45%) are more likely to select than those age 18-29 (28%)
- Hispanics (50%) are more likely to select than Whites (37%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 500 or more (50%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (36%) and 50-99 (34%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

The parent-student activities expected too much time together

- Whites (11%) and Other Ethnicities (13%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (2%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

The topics have not been relevant

- Other ethnicities are the most likely to select (17%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to select (18%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

Home activities have been things students did not want to participate in

- Those age 30-49 (30%) are more likely to select than those age 50+ (19%)
- Whites (29%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (17%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the least likely to select (13%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

Home activities have been things parents did not want to participate in

- Those age 30-49 (32%) are more likely to select than those age 50+ (19%)
- Whites (29%) and Other Ethnicities (39%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (16%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (35%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (25%)

“Which, if any, of these challenges have limited the connection of church efforts and parents’ efforts in students’ spiritual development?”

The format of the parent-student activities has not been enjoyable

- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (14%) or a Graduate Degree (11%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (3%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Affirm biblical principles taught at church

- Males are more likely to select than females (65% v. 52%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree are the most likely to select (68%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (71%) and 500 or more (73%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (54%), 50-99 (53%), and 100-249 (59%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Teach Bible stories and principles at home

- Males are more likely to select than females (48% v. 32%)
- Hispanics are the least likely to select (20%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (42%) or a Graduate Degree (47%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (28%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (48%) and 500 or more (48%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (35%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Lead their student in a Bible study at home

- Other Ethnicities (42%) are more likely to select than Whites (20%) and Hispanics (18%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (11%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (31%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (19%) and 50-99 (22%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Discuss life events with their student considering what the Bible has to say on the topic

- Other Ethnicities (66%) are more likely to select than Whites (43%) and Hispanics (36%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (20%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (57%) and 500 or more (61%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (40%), 50-99 (37%), and 100-249 (41%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Pray that their student would grow in ways found in Scripture

- Those in the South (53%) and West (58%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (45%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (36%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (60%) and 500 or more (57%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (46%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Pray together with their student

- Those in the South (52%) and West (57%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (43%)
- Those age 30-49 (52%) are more likely to select than those age 50+ (42%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (55% v. 41%)
- Those with a Graduates Degree are the most likely to select (57%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 50-99 are the least likely to select (40%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Personally read the Bible regularly

- Those in the South (59%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (43%) and West (49%)
- Those age 18-29 (59%) are more likely to select than those age 50+ (48%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (58% v. 46%)
- Other Ethnicities (77%) are more likely to select than Whites (50%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (18%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (61%) and 500 or more (58%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (49%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Pray during meals they eat together

- Those in the South (36%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (26%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (37% v. 24%)
- Other Ethnicities (49%) are more likely to select than Whites (29%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (37%) or a Graduate Degree (33%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (16%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (39%), 250-499 (40%), and 500 or more (37%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (23%) and 50-99 (29%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Take their student to church

- Those age 18-29 (78%) are more likely to select than those age 50+ (68%)
- Hispanics (83%) are more likely to select than Whites (72%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Personally be involved in church activities

- Those in the South (66%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (50%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (65% v. 54%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the least likely to select (34%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (70%) and 500 or more (69%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (55%) and 50-99 (56%)

“Which, if any, of the following are expectations your church has placed on parents of students?”

Encourage celebration in their home

- Those in the West are the most likely to select (36%)
- Whites (26%) and Other Ethnicities (38%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (7%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree (33%) are more likely to select than those with some college (22%) or with a Bachelor’s Degree (24%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (34%) and 500 or more (37%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (18%) and 100-249 (23%)

“I have the support of the church.”

- No meaningful significant differences

“My role is seen as essential to the church.”

- No meaningful significant differences

“The church provides sufficient financial support for the student ministry.”

- Those in the South (86%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Midwest (77%) and West (76%)
- Males are more likely to Agree than females (88% v. 74%)
- Hispanics are the least likely to Agree (56%)
- Those with some college are the least likely to Agree (67%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (89%), 250-499 (95%), and 500 or more (94%) are more likely to Agree than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (76%) and 50-99 (74%)

“I feel tension with parents of students in our ministry.”

- Those in the Midwest (17%) and South (19%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (8%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to Agree (25%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less (89%) are more likely to Disagree than those with some college (75%) or a Graduate Degree (78%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the least likely to Agree (6%) and the most likely to answer Not sure (12%)

“I would describe my interaction with parents as more ...”

- Those in the South (84%) are more likely to select “Relationship-driven” than those in the West (72%)
- Those age 50+ (89%) are more likely to select “Relationship-driven” than those age 30-49 (78%)
- Hispanics are the most likely to select “Content-driven” (53%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (87%) and 250-499 (86%) are more likely to select “Relationship-driven” than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (74%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

I am seen as too young

- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (50%)
- Those with a Bachelor’s Degree (17%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (7%) or with a Graduate Degree (11%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

I am seen as too old

- Those age 50+ are the most likely to select (14%)
- Those in the West (14%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (3%) and South (5%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

I do not have children of my own

- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (40%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the most likely to select (31%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

I lack sufficient experience

- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (25%)
- Females are more likely to select than males (22% v. 8%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to select (34%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (18%) and 50-99 (15%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 500 or more (8%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

The parents do not respect my abilities

- Those age 18-29 (14%) are more likely to select than those age 30-49 (6%) and 50+ (1%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

The parents do not respect my leadership

- No meaningful significant differences

The parents do not respect my authority

- Those in the Midwest (13%) are more likely to select than those in the South (8%) and West (1%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the least likely to select (1%)

Church leadership does not take me seriously

- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the least likely to select (1%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

There is a lack of trust from the parents

- No meaningful significant differences

I am not paid enough

- Those in the Midwest are the most likely to select (21%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (21%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (15% v. 5%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (19%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (7%), 50-99 (11%), and 250-499 (8%)

“I feel insecure in my ministry due to the following aspects of my life.”

I do not receive health insurance

- Those in the Midwest (15%) are more likely to select than those in the South (8%) and West (4%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (17%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 are the most likely to select (18%)

“I can bring concerns to my senior pastor.”

- Those who are High School Graduates or less (96%) or with some college (94%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (86%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (95%) and 250-499 (93%) are more likely to Agree than those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (85%) and 500 or more (84%)

“My senior pastor is engaged in my development as a ministry leader.”

- Those age 50+ (83%) are more likely to Agree than those age 18-29 (72%)
- Those with some college (85%) or a Graduate Degree (79%) are more likely to Agree than those with a Bachelor’s Degree (72%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (23%) and 500 or more (26%) are more likely to Disagree than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (14%) and 50-99 (14%)

“My senior pastor recommends resources for my development.”

- Those age 50+ (74%) are more likely to Agree than those age 30-49 (59%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to Disagree (56%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 500 or more (41%) are more likely to Disagree than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (31%) and 50-99 (30%)

“About how often do you meet with the senior pastor?”

- Those in the South (47%) are more likely to select “Once a week” than those in the Midwest (36%) and West (28%)
- Those age 30-49 (45%) are more likely to select “Once a week” than those age 50+ (34%)
- Males are more likely to select “Once a week” than females (50% v. 27%)
- Hispanics are the most likely to select “Once a month” (45%)
- Those with a Graduate Degree are the most likely to select “Once a week” (52%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to select “Once a year” (18%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the most likely to select “Once a month” (27%)

“Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry?”

We currently offer girls ministry activities

- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (37%)
- Males are more likely to select than females (33% v. 19%)
- Whites (30%) and Other Ethnicities (32%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (15%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to select (41%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 (53%) and 500 or more (43%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (9%), 50-99 (18%), and 100-249 (31%)

“Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry?”

We currently offer boys ministry activities

- Males are more likely to select than females (29% v. 17%)
- Whites (26%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (15%)
- Those who are High School Graduates or less are the most likely to select (41%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 250-499 are the most likely to select (51%)

“Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry?”

We are considering offering girls ministry activities

- Those in the South (24%) and West (23%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (9%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (33%)
- Other Ethnicities are the most likely to select (40%)
- Those with some college (25%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (11%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (27%) and 500 or more (24%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of less than 50 (13%) and 50-99 (17%)

“Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry?”

We are considering offering boys ministry activities

- Those in the South (22%) and West (21%) are more likely to select than those in the Midwest (8%)
- Those age 18-29 are the most likely to select (36%)
- Other Ethnicities (29%) are more likely to select than Hispanics (11%)
- Those with some college (23%) are more likely to select than those who are High School Graduates or less (11%) or with a Bachelor’s Degree (17%)
- Those at churches with attendance of 100-249 (27%) are more likely to select than those at churches with attendance of 50-99 (14%) and 250-499 (16%)

“Does your church or are you considering offering gender-specific ministry activities for girls ministry or boys ministry?”

We are not considering separate activities for girls or boys

- Those in the Midwest (62%) are more likely to select than those in the South (48%)
- Those age 50+ are the most likely to select (68%)
- Hispanics (70%) are more likely to select than Whites (50%) and Other Ethnicities (32%)
- Those at churches with attendance of less than 50 are the most likely to select (78%)

Student Leaders' Views on Parent Ministry

A SURVEY OF STUDENT MINISTRY LEADERS

Lifeway **research**