

# 2025 State of Discipleship

## Obeying God and Denying Self™

A SURVEY OF AMERICAN PROTESTANT CHURCHGOERS

Lifeway research

# Methodology

- The online survey of 2,130 Protestant churchgoers was conducted March 19–26, 2025 using a national pre-recruited panel
- Respondents were screened to include those who identified as Protestant/non-denominational and attend religious services at least once a month
- Respondents could complete the survey in English or Spanish
- Quotas and slight weights were used to balance gender, age, region, ethnicity, education, and denominational affiliation
- The completed sample is 2,130 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error from the panel does not exceed  $\pm 2.21\%$  This margin of error accounts for the effect of weighting
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups

# Signpost II – Obeying God and Denying Self

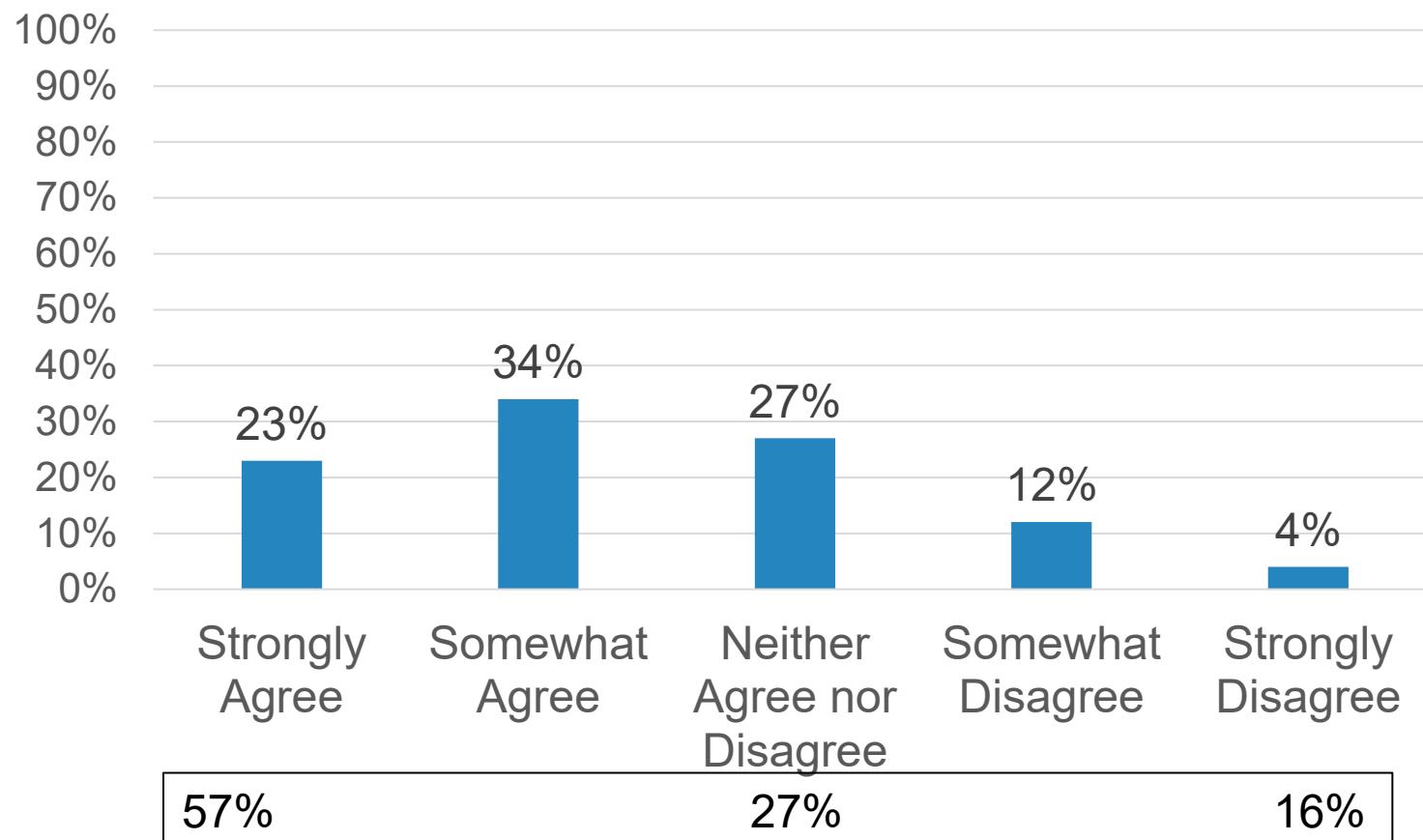
Obeying God and Denying Self is one of eight signposts in the DisciplesPath assessment. These eight questions form a validated scale\*. Together they reliably measure an individual or a group's progress in obeying God and denying self.

This report describes the beliefs, desires, and actions of Protestant churchgoers in the United States around obeying God and denying self. On a scale of 0 to 100, the average churchgoer scores 75.1 on Obeying God and Denying Self, placing it second among the signposts.

\*The Obeying God and Denying Self™ scale is a proprietary measurement tool and is not to be used without prior permission from Lifeway Christian Resources.

# **“I sacrifice my goals to please and honor Jesus”**

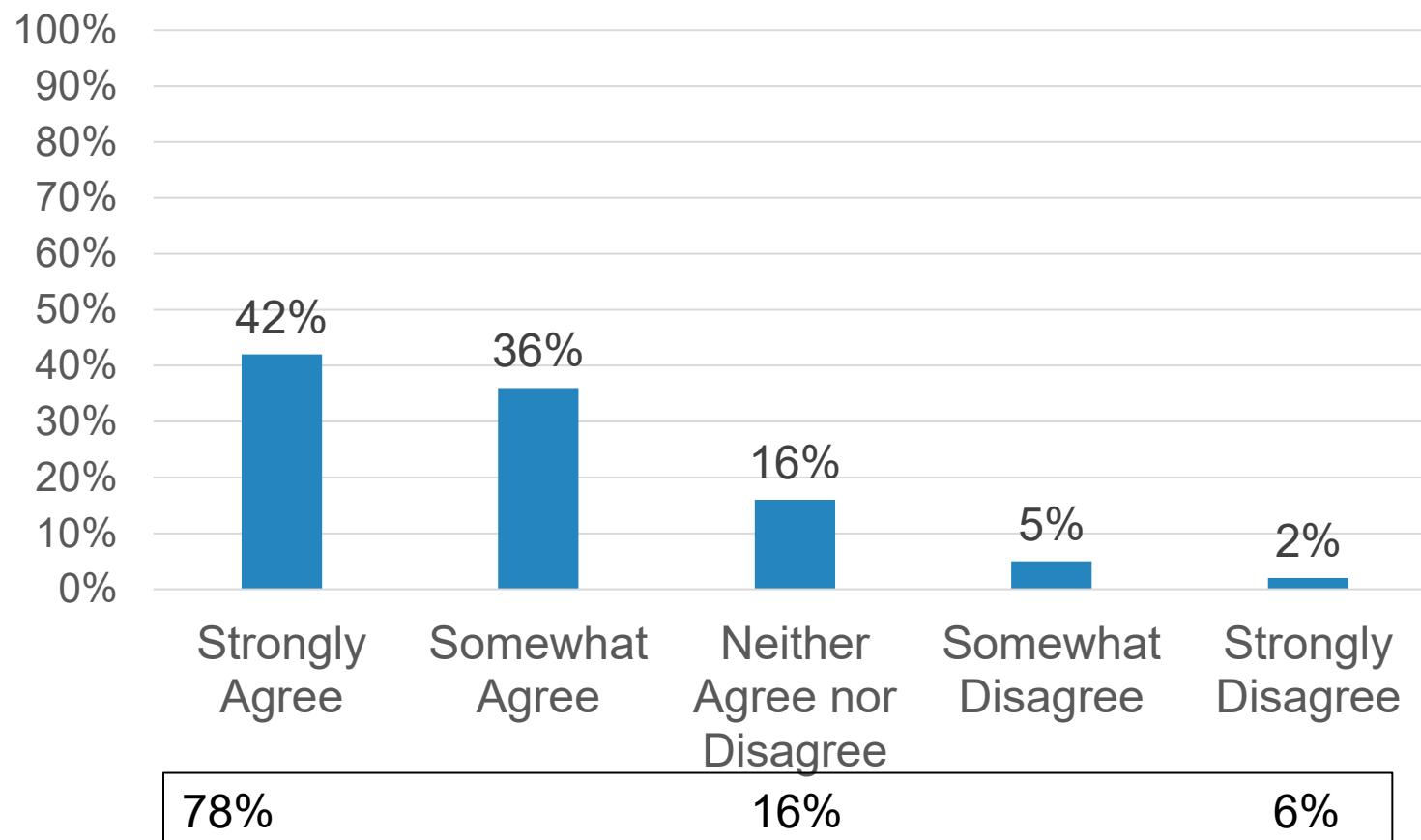
Among Protestant Churchgoers



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# “I am ready to work in any job God wants me to have”

Among Protestant Churchgoers

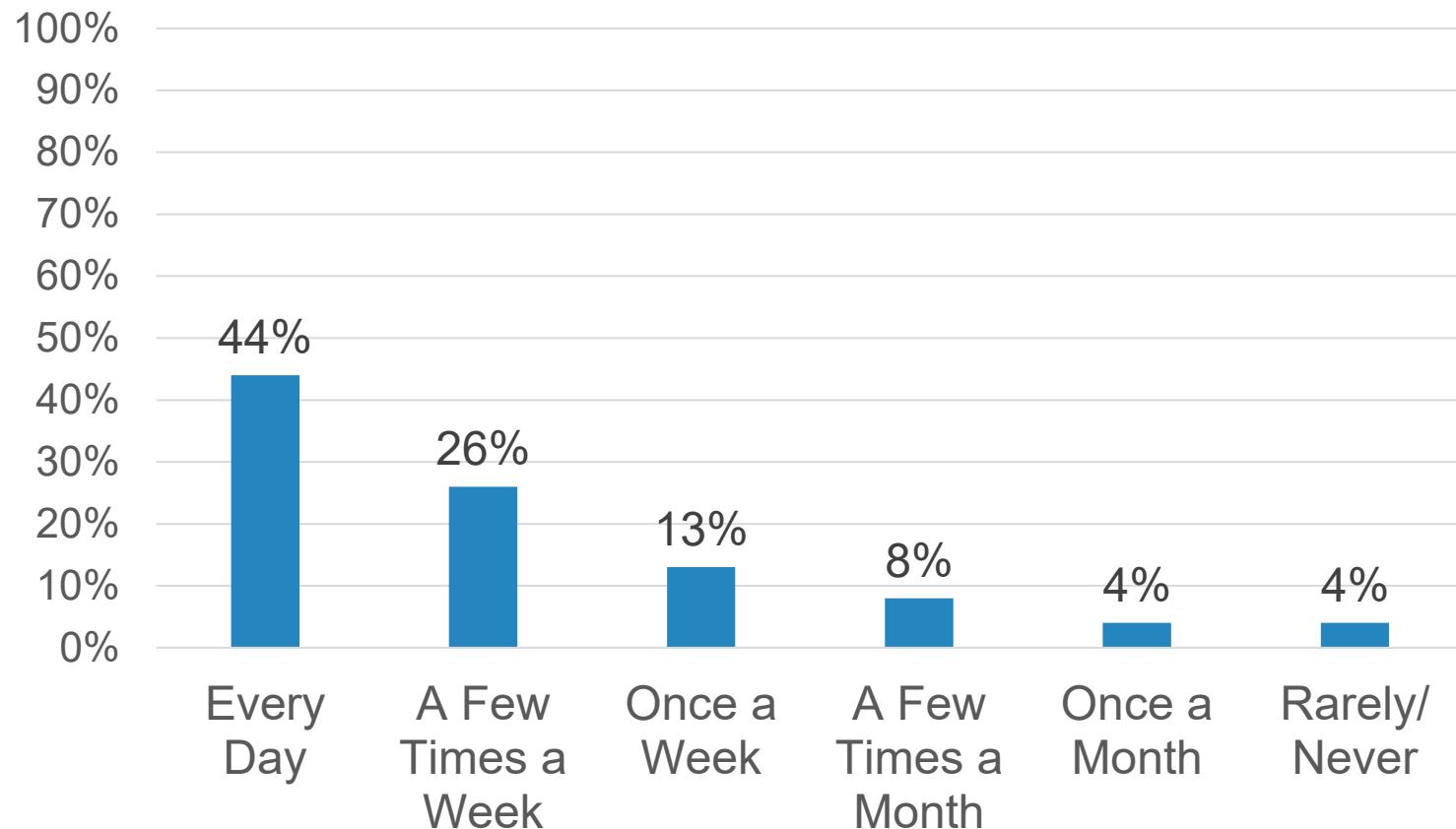


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Q31\_3: “I am ready to work in any job God wants me to have” n=2,130

# About how often do you personally: “Confess my sins and wrongdoings to God and ask for forgiveness”

Among Protestant Churchgoers

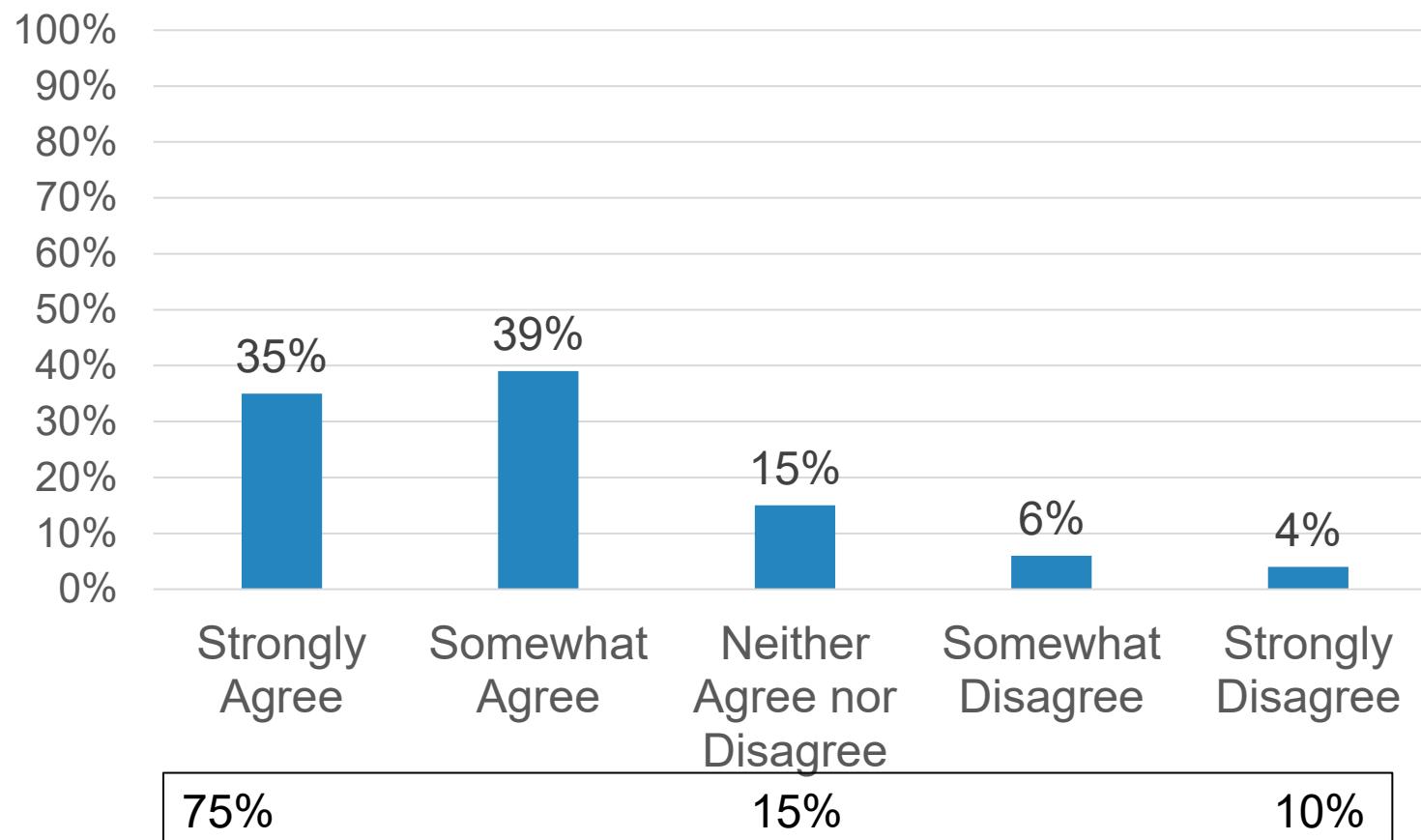


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Q34\_2: “About how often, if at all, do you personally do each of the following activities? Do not include any times you do these things as part of a church worship service. **Confess my sins and wrongdoings to God and ask for forgiveness**” n=2,130

# **“I try to avoid situations in which I might be tempted to think or do immoral things”**

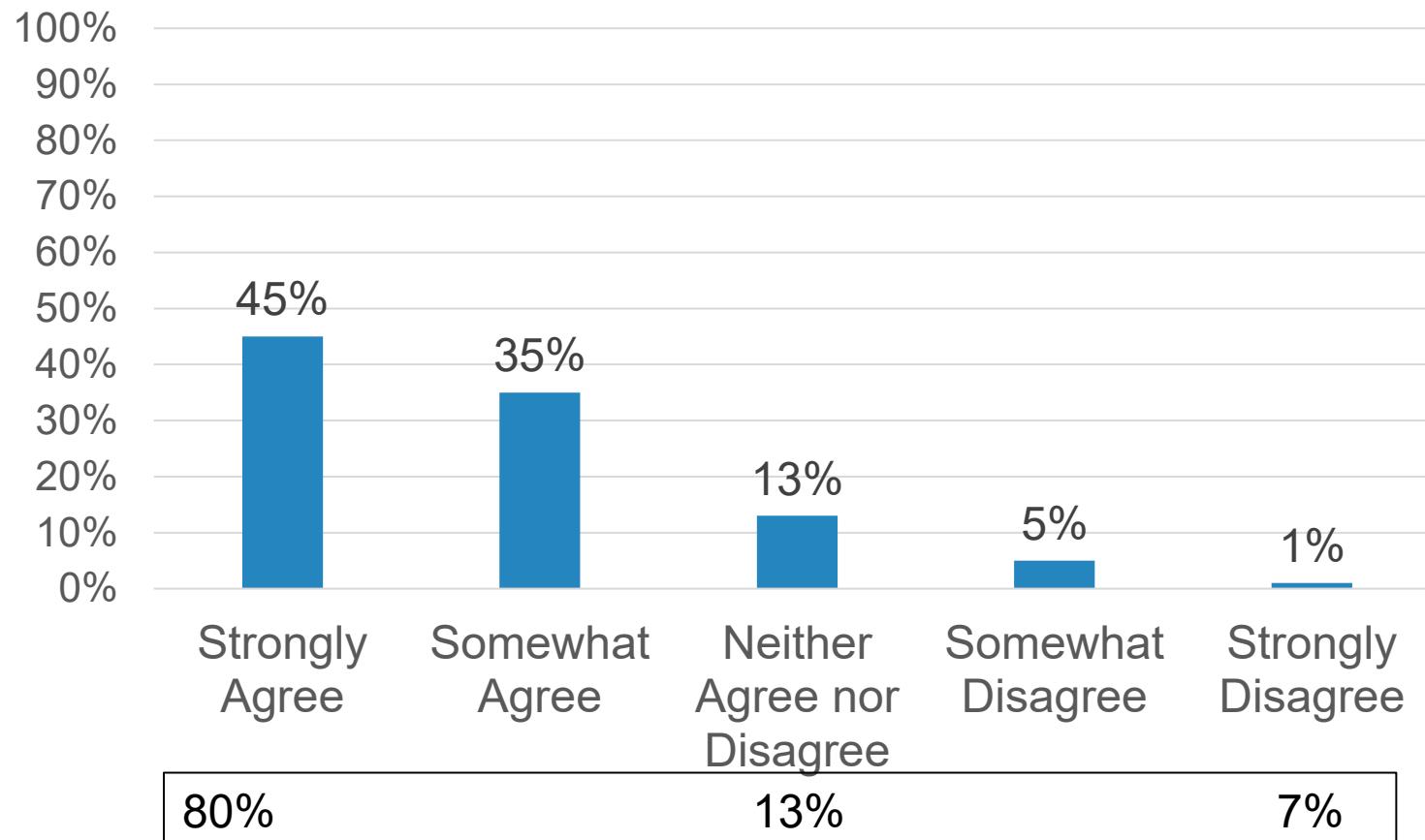
Among Protestant Churchgoers



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# “When convinced of sin in my life, I readily confess it to God as sin”

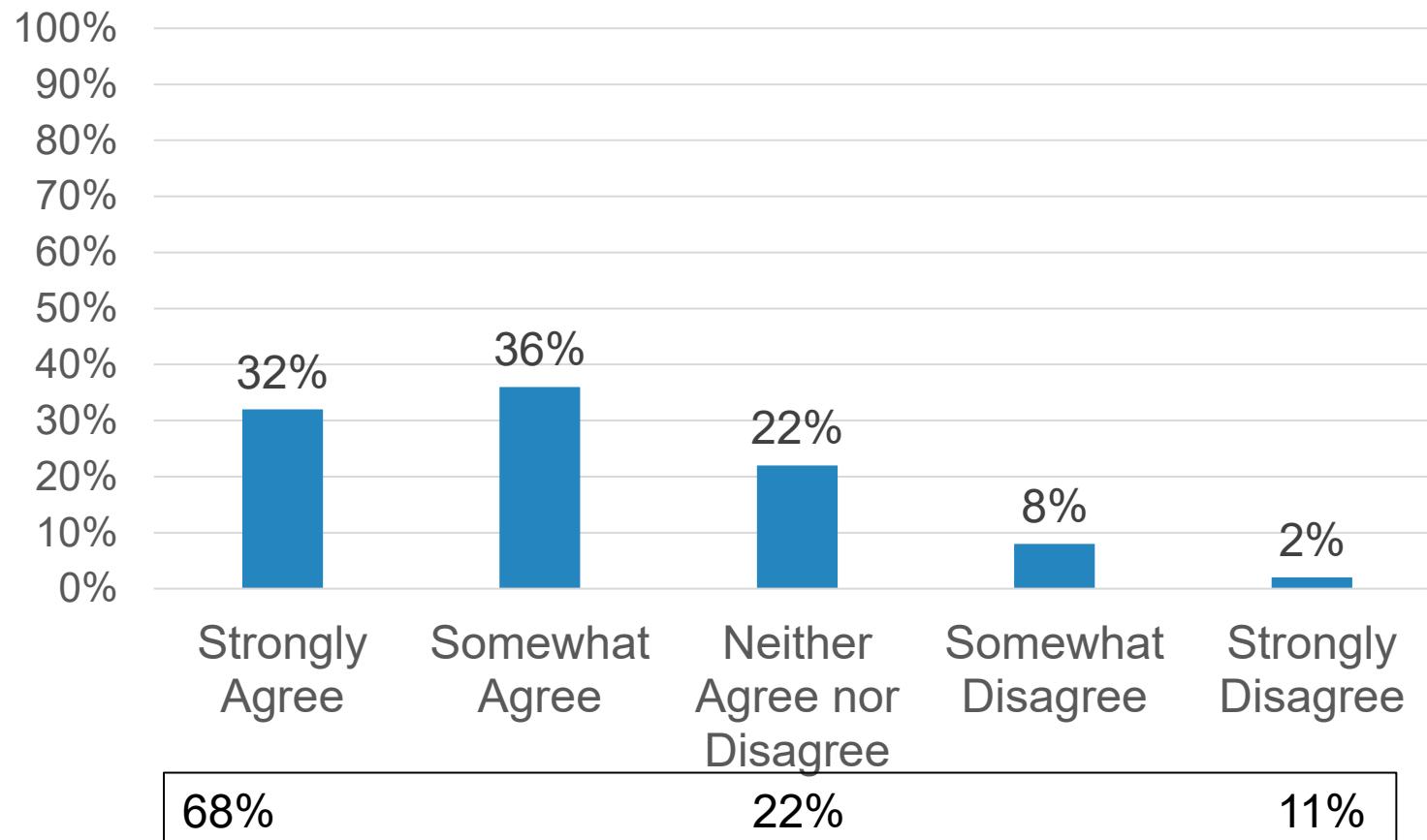
Among Protestant Churchgoers



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# “I live as if I exist to praise and glorify God”

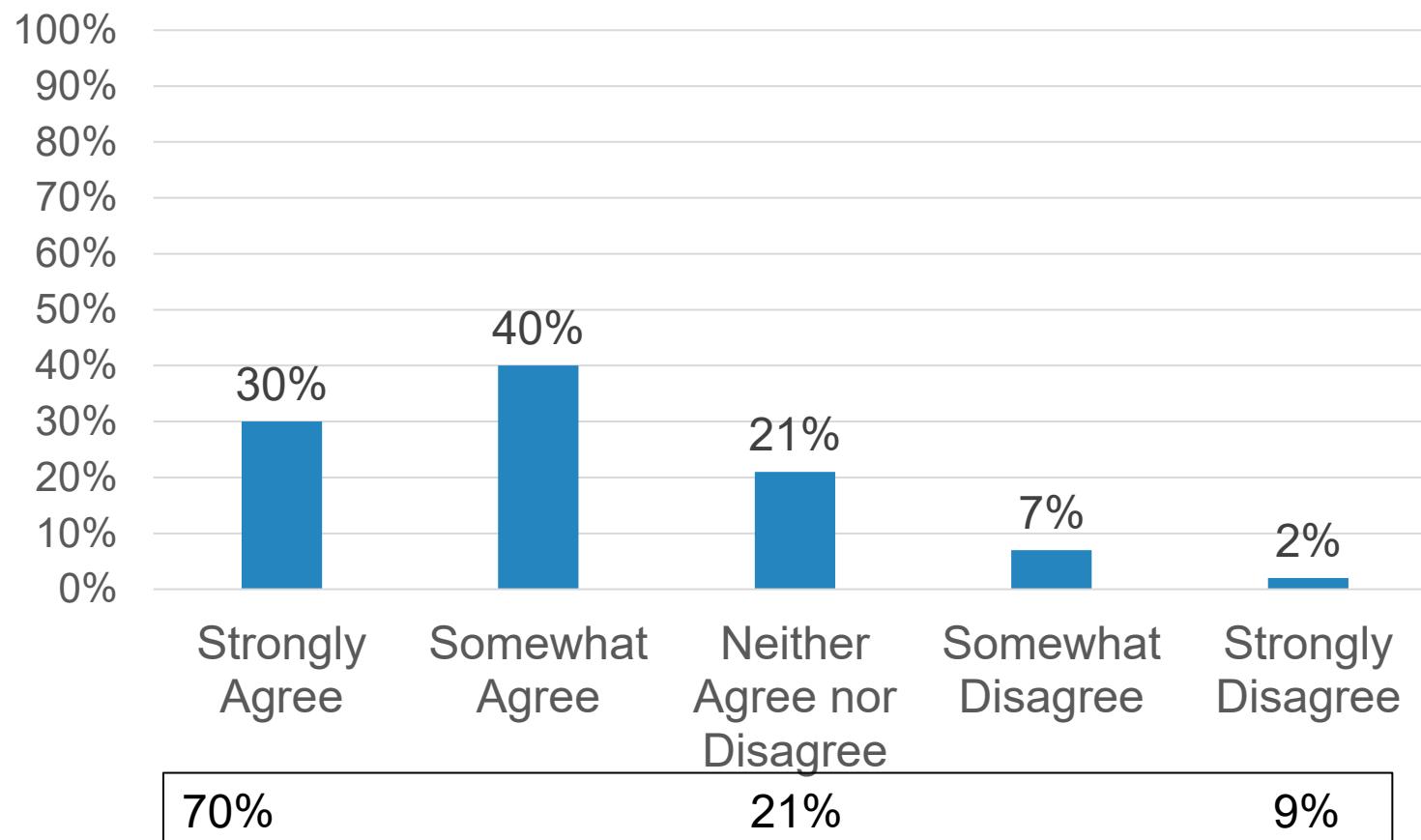
Among Protestant Churchgoers



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# **“I turn from my sins after I have confessed them to God”**

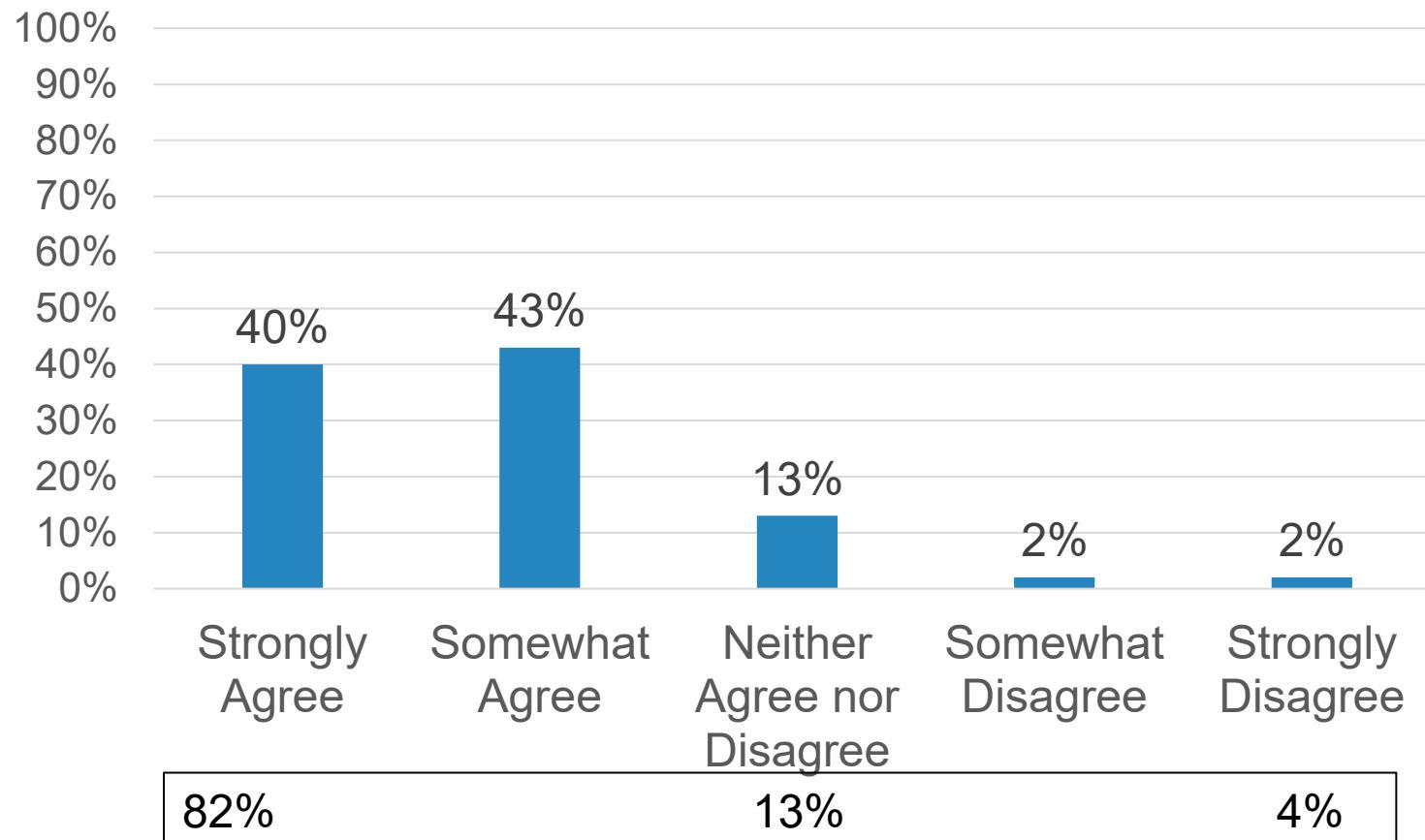
Among Protestant Churchgoers



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# **“When I realize my attitude does not please God, I take steps to try to fix it”**

Among Protestant Churchgoers



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