

# 2020 – 2025 Strategic Planning First Baptist Monroe, Georgia

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# **Surprising Trends in Global Christianity** in 2019

#### **1. CHRISTIANITY IS GROWING FASTER THAN THE POPULATION.**

- --- Globally, Christianity is growing at a 1.27% rate. Currently, there are 2.5 billion Christians in the world. The world's population, 7.7 billion, is growing at a 1.20% rate.
- --- Islam (1.95%), Sikhs (1.66%) and Hindus (1.30%) are the only religious groups growing faster than Christianity, though followers of Jesus outnumber every other faith and are predicted to continue to do so at least through 2050.

#### 2. PENTECOSTALS AND EVANGELICALS ARE GROWING THE FASTEST AND ARE STILL PICKING UP SPEED.

--- Among Christian groups, Pentecostals (2.26%) and evangelicals (2.19%) are growing faster than others.

#### **3. CHRISTIANITY IS GROWING IN CITIES, BUT NOT FAST ENOUGH.**

- --- Today, 1.64 billion Christians live in urban areas, growing at a 1.58% rate since 2000.
- --- But more than 55% of the world's population lives in cities and that is only continuing to grow.

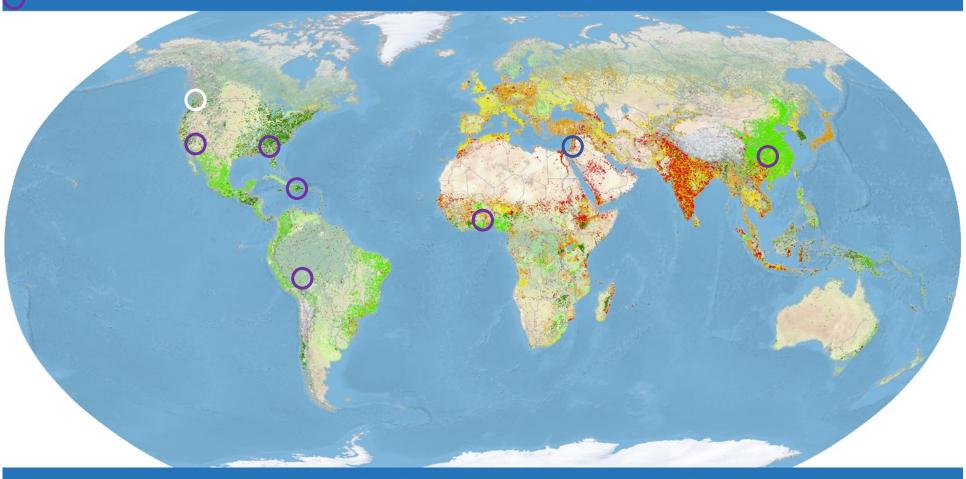
#### 4. THE CENTER OF CHRISTIANITY HAS MOVED TO THE GLOBAL SOUTH.

- --- In 1900, twice as many Christians lived in Europe than in the rest of the world combined. Today, both Latin America and Africa have more. By 2050, the number of Christians in Asia will also pass the number in Europe.
- --- Currently, Christianity is barely growing in Europe (0.04% rate) and only slightly better in North America (0.56%).
- --- Oceania (0.89) and Latin America (1.18%) have marginally better rates, but the faith is exploding in Asia (1.89%) and Africa (2.89%).



	Status	Description
WORLD A -	0	No evangelical Christians or churches. No access to evangelical print, audio, visual or human resources.
WORLD A – Unreached	1	Less than 2 percent evangelical. Some evangelical resources available. No active church planting within the past two years.
	2	Less than 2 percent evangelical. Initial or localized church planting within the past two years.
WORLD B – Access	3	Less than 2 percent evangelical. Dispersed or widespread church planting within the past two years.
WORLD C - Reached	4	Greater than or equal to 2 percent evangelical.
	5	Greater than or equal to 5 percent evangelical.
	6	Greater than or equal to 10 percent evangelical.







0 — No evangelical Christians or churches. No access to evangelical print, audio, visual, or human resources.

1 — Less than 2 percent evangelical. Some evangelical resources available. No active church planting within past two years.



2 — Less than 2 percent evangelical. Initial or concentrated church planting within past two years.

3 — Less than 2 percent evangelical. Dispersed or widespread church planting within past two years.



4 — Greater than or equal to 2 percent evangelical, but less than 5 percent evangelical.



5 — Greater than or equal to 5 percent evangelical, but less than 10 percent evangelical.

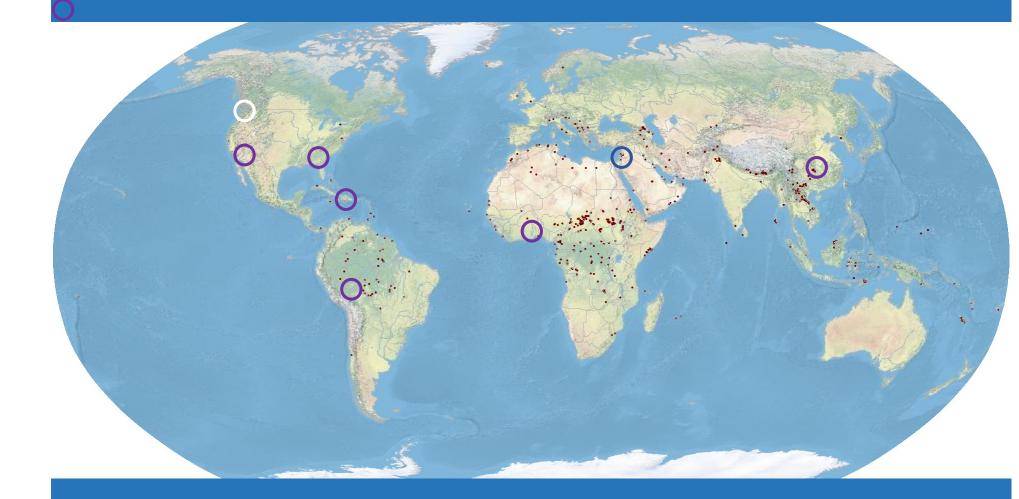
6 — Greater than or equal to 10 percent evangelical.



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## **Global Status of Evangelical Christianity**



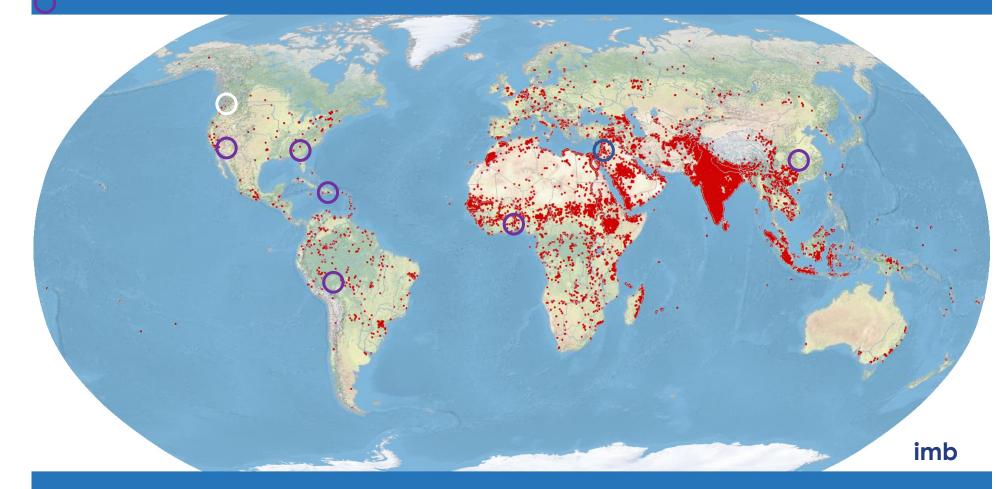
GSEC Status 0 No evangelical Christians or churches. No access to evangelical print, audio, visual or human resources. 401 people groups with a combined population of 9,268,915 as of January 1, 2018.



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## Global Status of Evangelical Christianity



GSEC Status 1

Less than 2 percent evangelical. Some evangelical resources available. No active church planting within the past two years.

4,507 people groups with a combined population of 919,049,170 as of January 1, 2018.

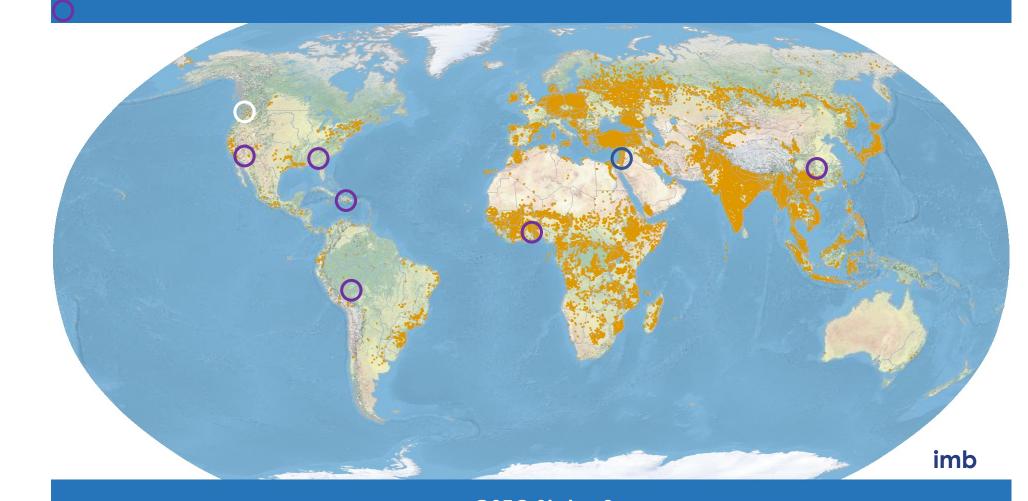
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Unreache

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## Global Status of Evangelical Christianity



GSEC Status 2 Less than 2 percent evangelical. Initial or localized church planting within the past two years. 1,754 people groups with a combined population of 1,864,236,850 as of January 1, 2018.

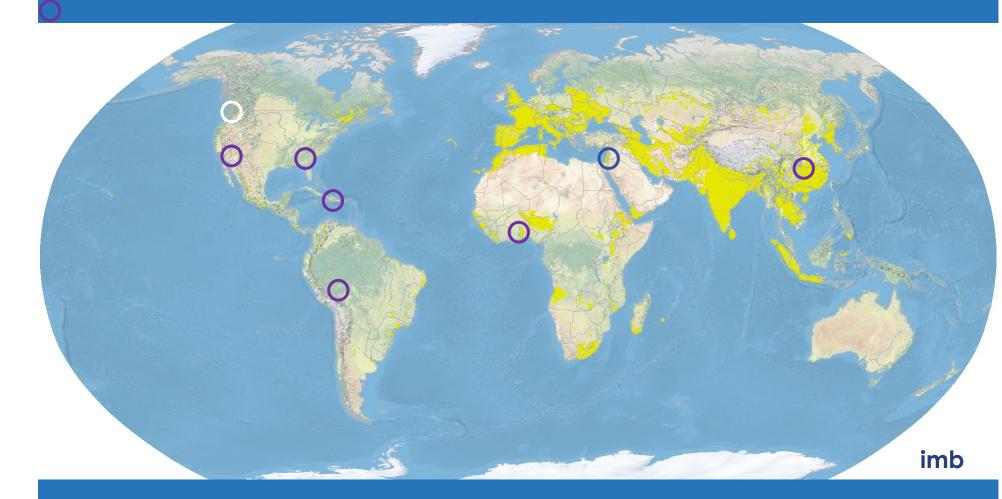


Access

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## Global Status of Evangelical Christianity



GSEC Status 3

Less than 2 percent evangelical. Dispersed or widespread church planting within the past two years. 377 people groups with a combined population of 1,556,532,600 as of January 1, 2018.

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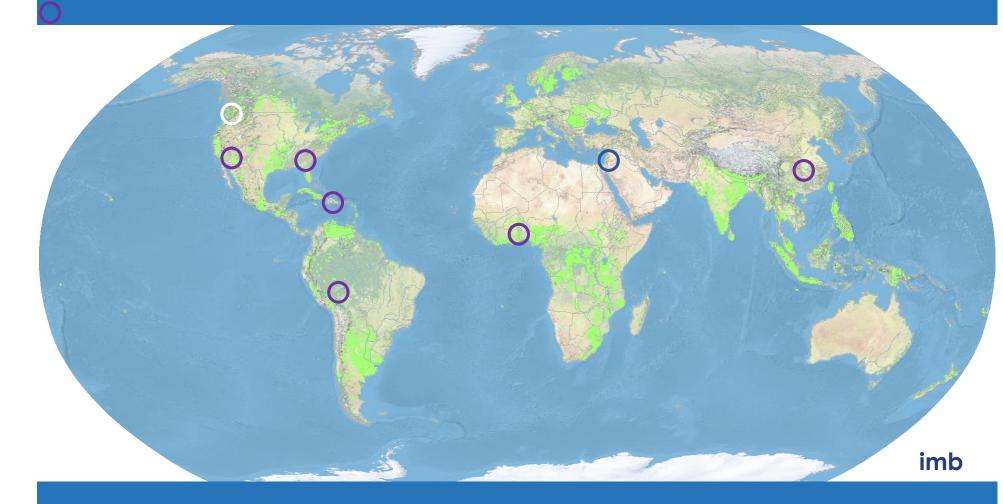


Reached

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## Global Status of Evangelical Christianity

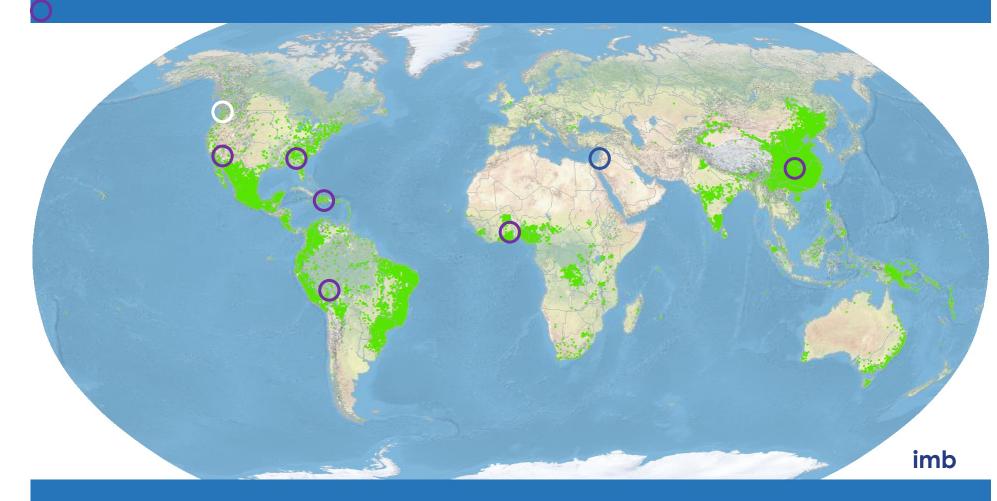


#### GSEC Status 4

Greater than or equal to 2 percent evangelical.

1,370 people groups with a combined population of 573,549,895 as of January 1, 2018.



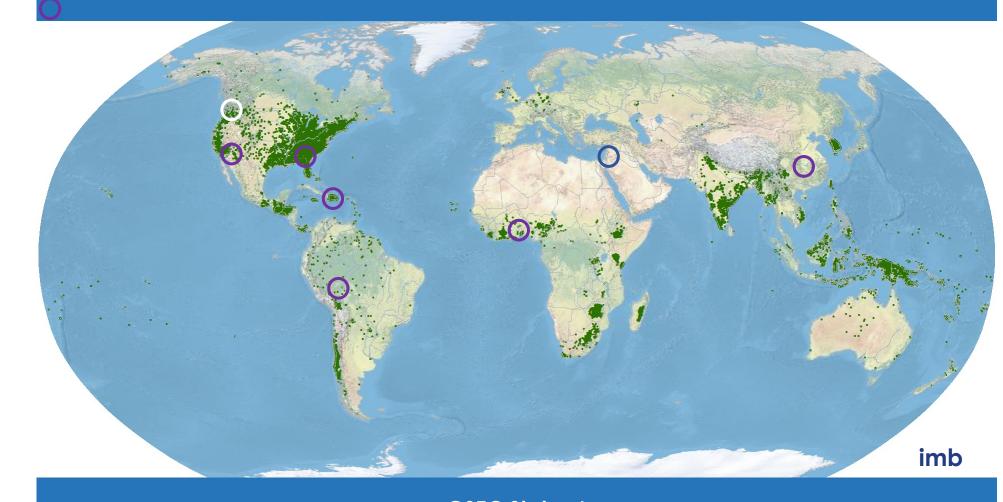


GSEC Status 5

Greater than or equal to 5 percent evangelical.

1,479 people groups with a combined population of 1,952,468,945 as of January 1, 2018.

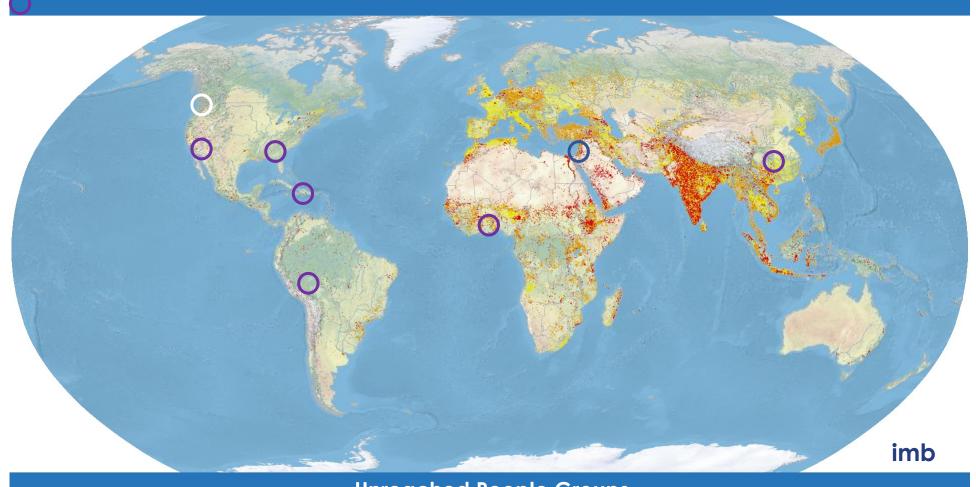




#### GSEC Status 6 Greater than or equal to 10 percent evangelical.

1,856 people groups with a combined population of 561,860,765 as of January 1, 2018.

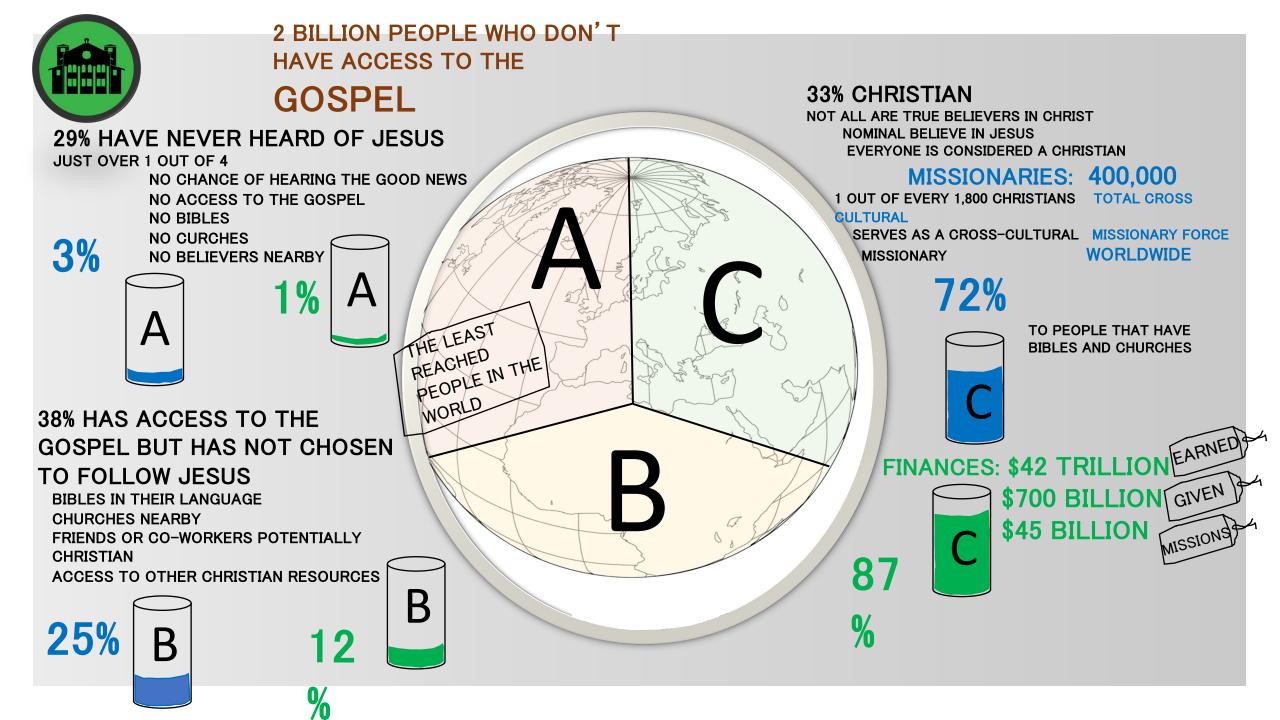


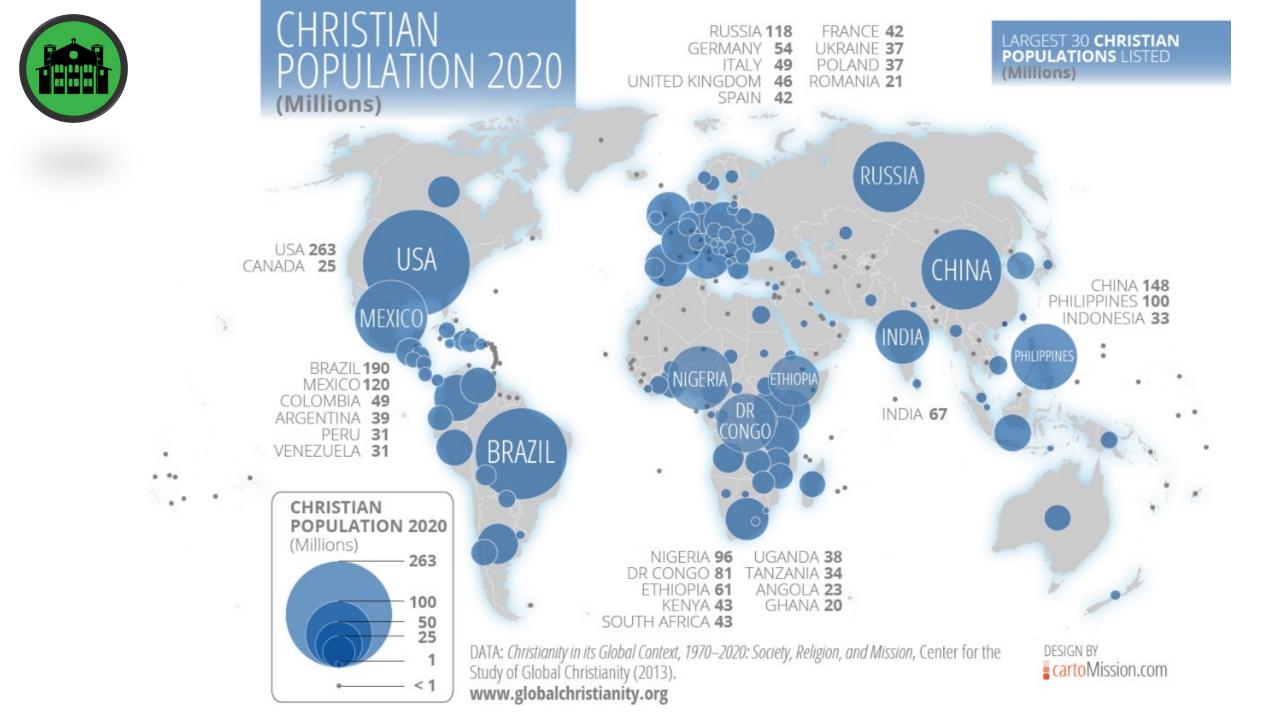


#### Unreached People Groups An Unreached People Group (UPG) is a people group with less than 2 percent evangelical Christians.

7,039 people groups with a total population of 4,349,087,535 are classified as UPGs as of January 1, 2018.

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Before Christ left earth, He gave a specific task to accomplish. We commonly refer to this as the Great Commission found in Matthew 28.

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

# Knowing what we have discussed about the Global Status of Evangelical Christianity...



# SO HOW WILL WE COMPLETE THIS TASK?

- **1.** Priorities shaped by the reality of the task.
  - --- We must be aware of the present state of the world and align our efforts by these realities.
  - --- We must...
  - --- We must...
- 2. Prioritize our Time, Talent and Resources.
  - --- It requires a commitment to perseverance and a dying to preference.
  - --- It requires...
  - --- It requires...
- 3. Partnerships with churches and movements all over the world.
  - --- We must join together as a global Church.
  - --- We must connect God's Resources to those who need it the most.
  - --- We must...
- 4. Unity in working in multicultural teams.
  - --- Leaving preferences aside, we must work to be unified in the mission across cultures.

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- 5. Prayer that is united, informed and persistent.
  - --- Prayer is the fuel to missions. The completion of the Great Commission is only complete through the power of the Holy Spirit.
  - --- Prayer unifies our purpose.



## FOUR PHASES OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

As good stewards, we are constantly seeking to **Discover**, **Develop**, **Implement** and **Evaluate** our mission work.

Discover	Develop	Implement	Evaluate
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- **Phase 1 Discover:** The first phase is discovering the mission partners and mission opportunities to which we believe God is calling us.
- **Phase 2 Develop:** The second phase is to prepare a plan for working with our partners and participating with each mission opportunity.
- **Phase 3 Implement:** The third phase is to carry out our plan by releasing our people and resources.
- **Phase 4 Evaluate:** The fourth phase is to evaluate our engagement with each partnership and mission opportunity.





Let's Evaluate our Previous Strategies and Mission Partnerships





**New Strategies and Mission Partnerships** 





Plans for the next 5 Years with our Mission Partnerships



# Implement

**Releasing our People and Resources** 





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