



Alumni Study



Who We Surveyed:

- Major award winners since 1994
- Typical respondent was between 19 and 32.



100% earned
Timothy



92% also
earned
Meritorious



74% achieved
the Citation



The Benchmark:

- Our researchers used a 2005 study done by Gallup for Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion as the control
- Some of Bayers' categories:
 - Americans in general
 - Protestants
 - The most religious in America



The First Look:

- Awana alumni are...
 - **far more likely** than other Americans,
 - **much more likely** than Protestants in general, and
 - generally **more likely** than even the most religious segments of America to...
 - Have no doubts that God exists
 - Believe that Jesus is the Son of God
 - Believe their Bible should be taken literally
 - Read their Bible
 - Attend religious services frequently



The First Look:

- Awana alumni are...
 - **far more likely** than other Americans,
 - **much more likely** than Protestants in general, and
 - generally **more likely** than even the most religious segments of America to...
 - Give more money to their church;
 - Participate in Bible studies or attend Sunday School;
 - Share their faith with friends, family and strangers;
 - Believe that sex before marriage is always wrong;



The First Look:

- Awana alumni are...
 - **far more likely** than other Americans,
 - **much more likely** than Protestants in general, and
 - generally **more likely** than even the most religious segments of America to...
 - Engage in missionary/community outreach programs more frequently
 - Spend time doing volunteer work, both for their church and their community in general.



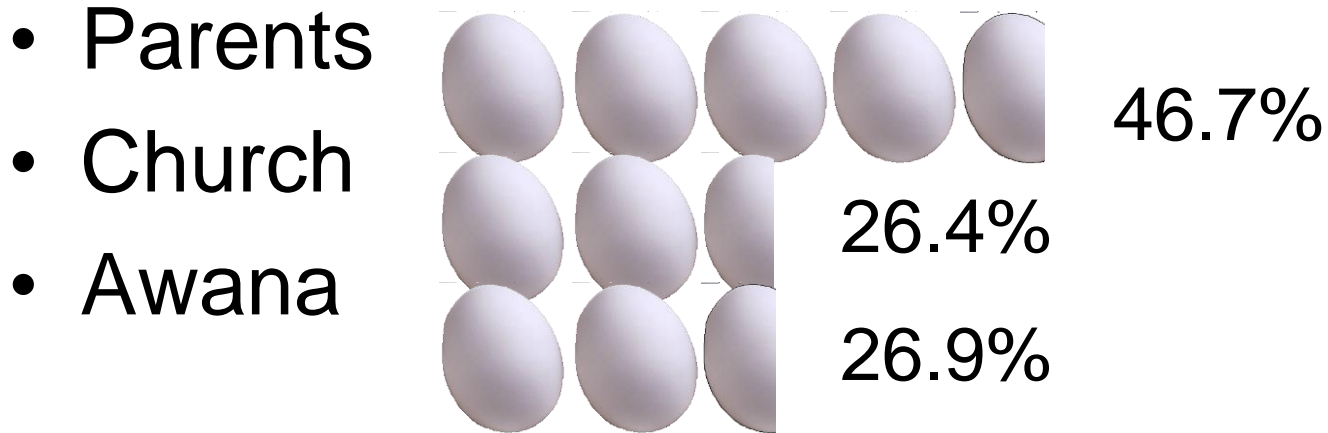
The Alumni were asked:

What was the relative importance of each of the primary influences that developed your religious foundation?

- Parents?
- Church?
- Awana?



What they indicated:

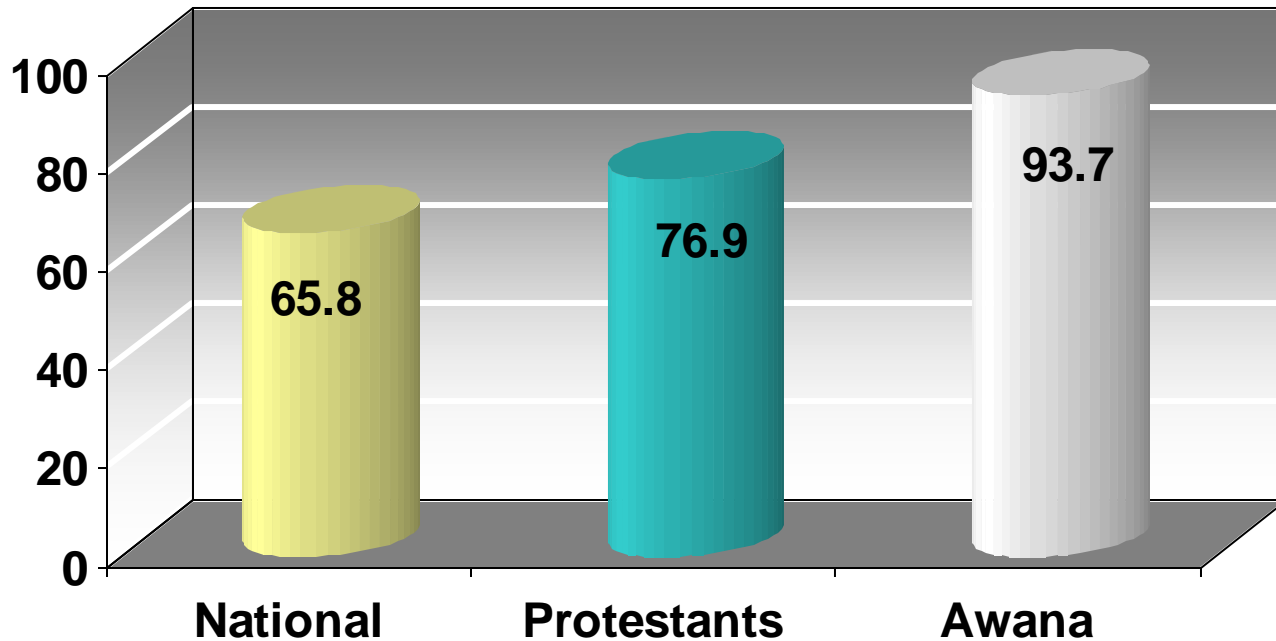


Findings:

- There is a balance between parent and church influence
- Awana was as significant as all other church programs combined.

Religious Beliefs

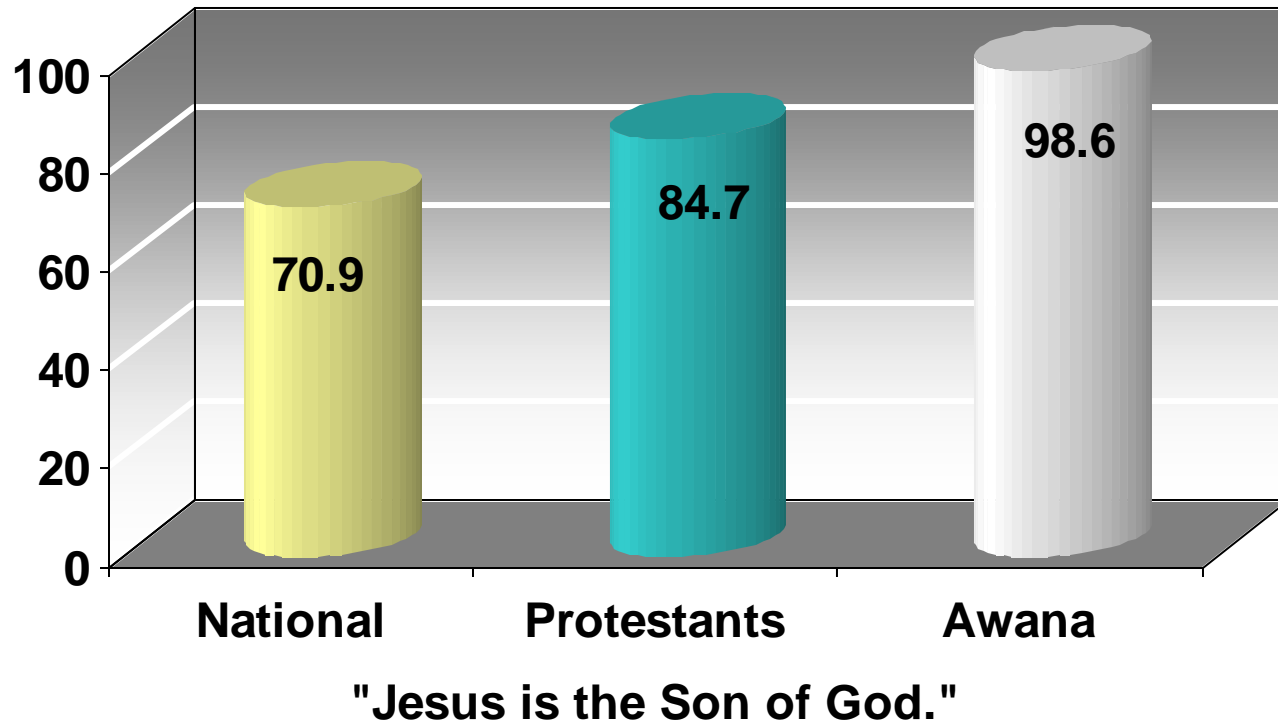
Personal Beliefs About God:



"I have no doubts that God exists."

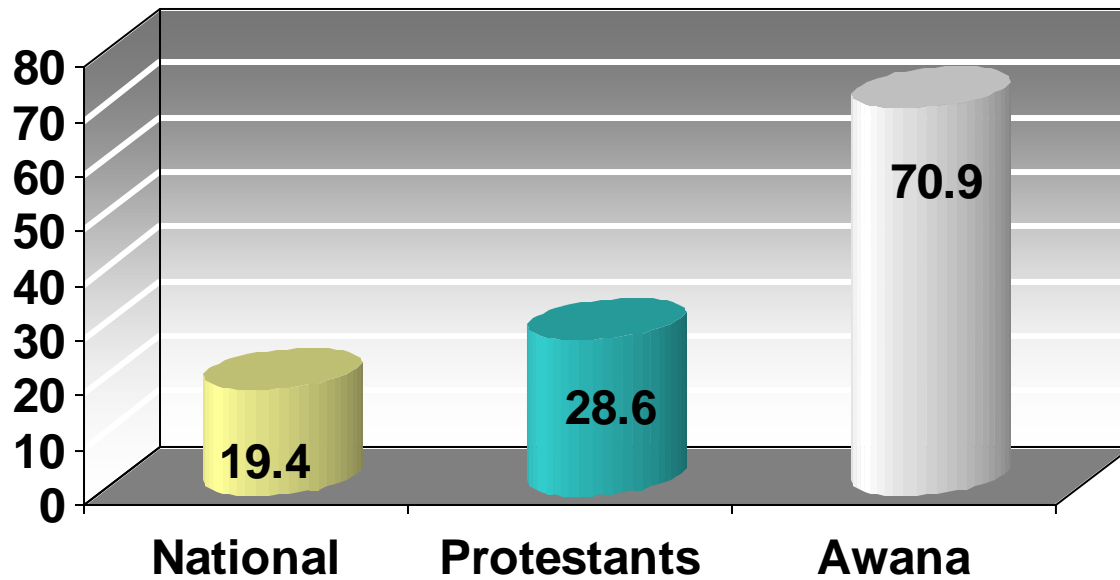
Religious Beliefs

Personal Beliefs About Jesus:



Religious Beliefs

Personal Beliefs About the Bible:

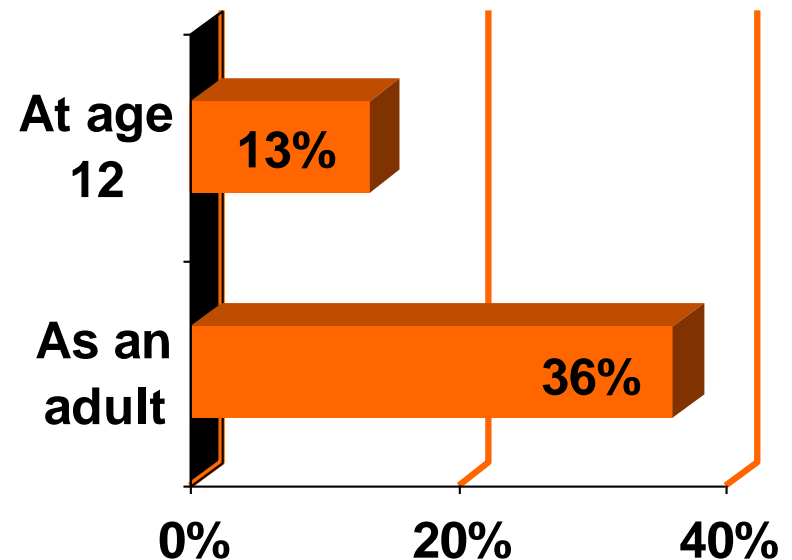


"The Bible should be taken literally, word for word."

Church Attendance

- 13% of Baylor respondents said they attended religious services “once/twice per year or less at age 12.
- At the time of the survey, 36% said they attended church once/twice per year.
- *This represents a 2.7-fold increase in those not attending church.*

Attended church twice a year or less

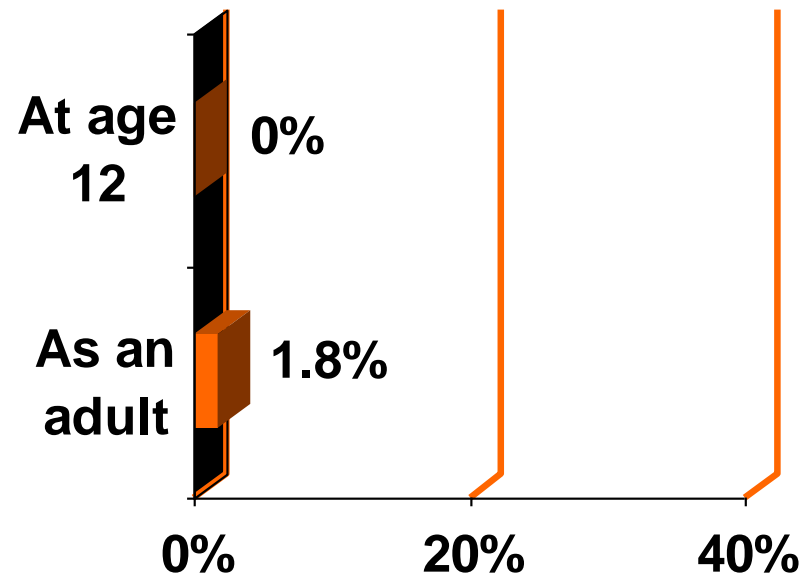




Church Attendance

- Among Awana alumni as adults, 92.7% were *still* attending church “about weekly” or more frequently.
- Only 1.8% of Awana alumni have dropped out of church attendance (once or twice a year or less).

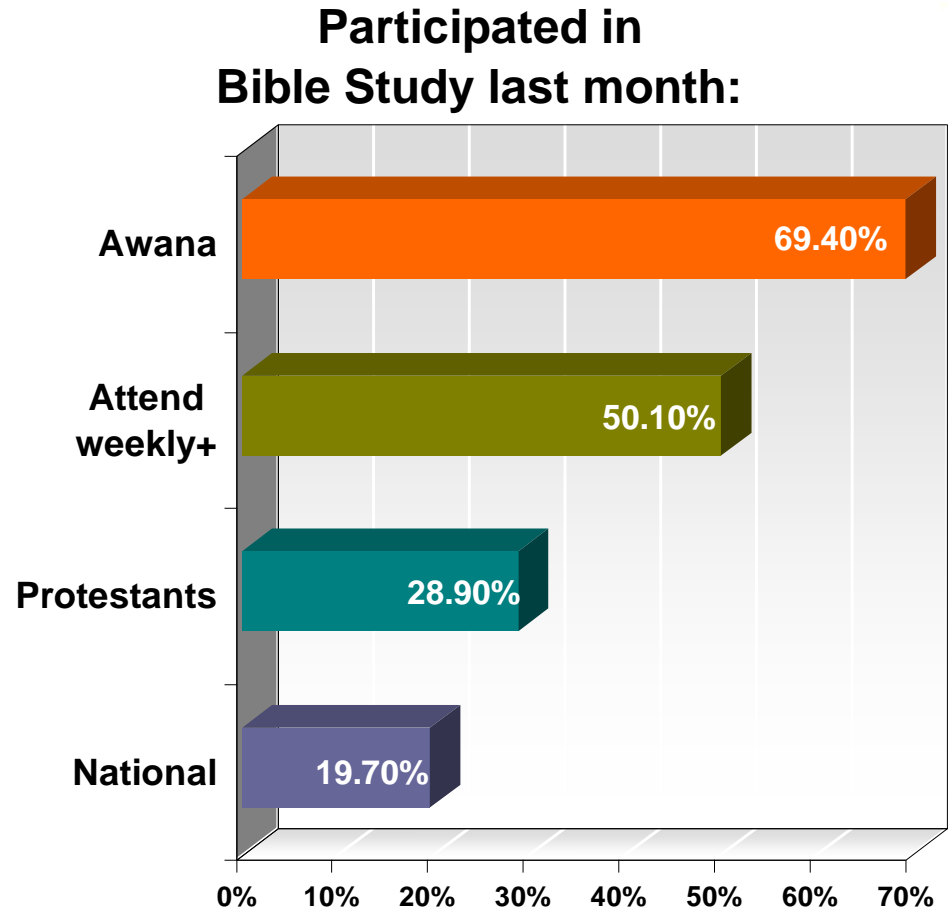
Attended church twice a year or less





Continued Discipleship

- Awana alumni are 64% more likely to participate in Bible study groups—than those who attend services weekly or several times a week.
- *It is reasonable to infer that Awana has instilled in their alumni a desire to learn about their faith.*

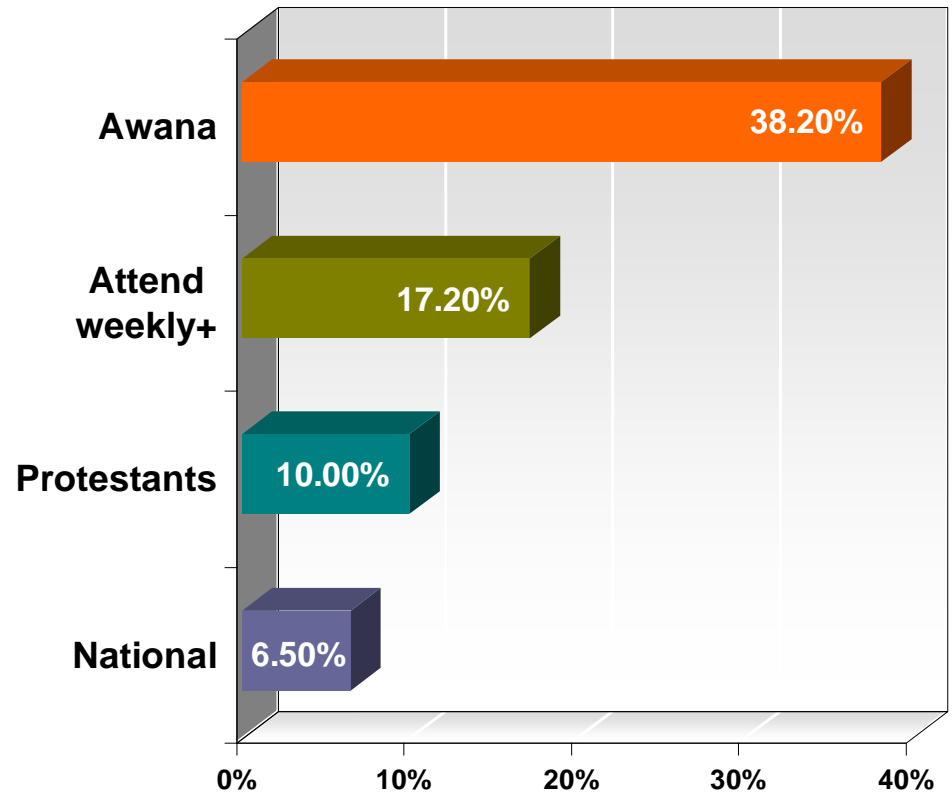




Continued Discipleship

- Awana alumni are far more likely than others to have participated in a small group or discipleship activity last month.
- *Awana has instilled not only a desire to learn about their faith, but also a desire to grow personally in their faith.*

Participated in a small group
3+ times last month:

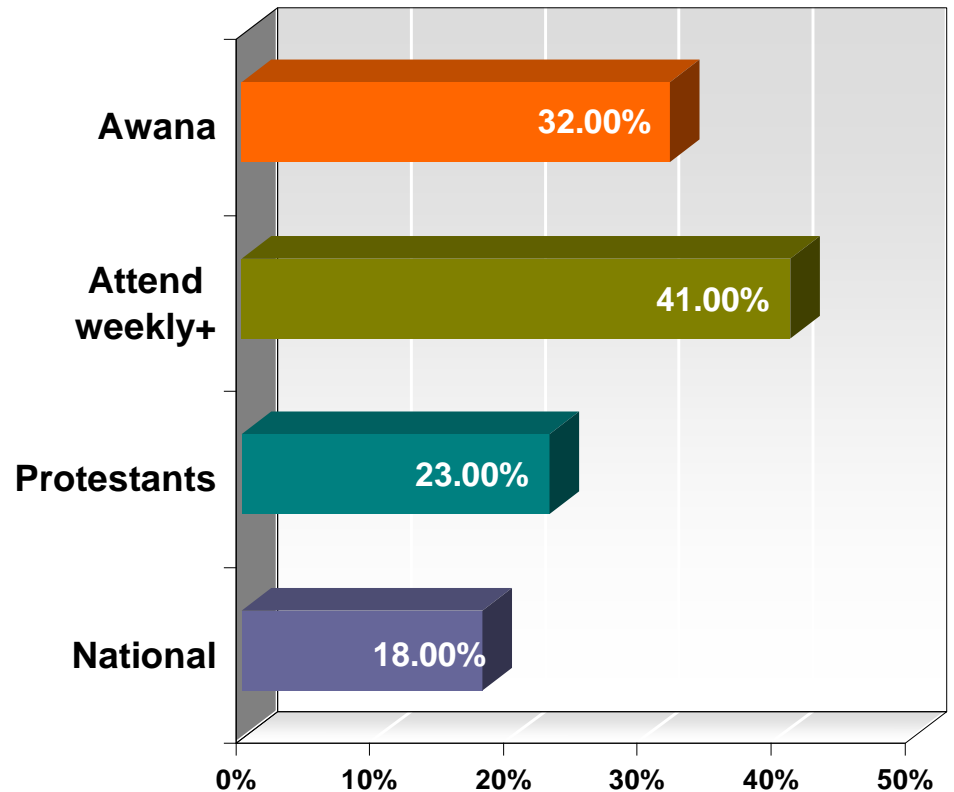




Church Committees

- Awana alumni have not made committee work more of a priority than other groups.

Participated in committee work in the church





Volunteerism

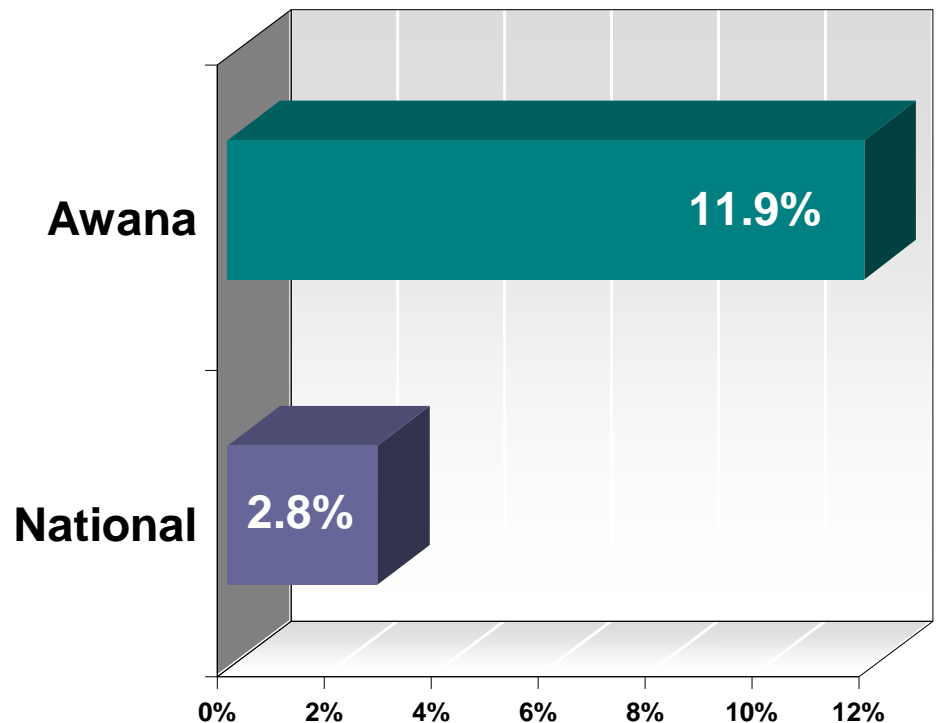
- Engage in community volunteer work?
- Spend five hours or more per month doing it?
- Volunteer in their church?
- Awana alumni are **twice** as likely
- Awana alumni are **three times** as likely
- Awana alumni are **four times** as likely



Giving

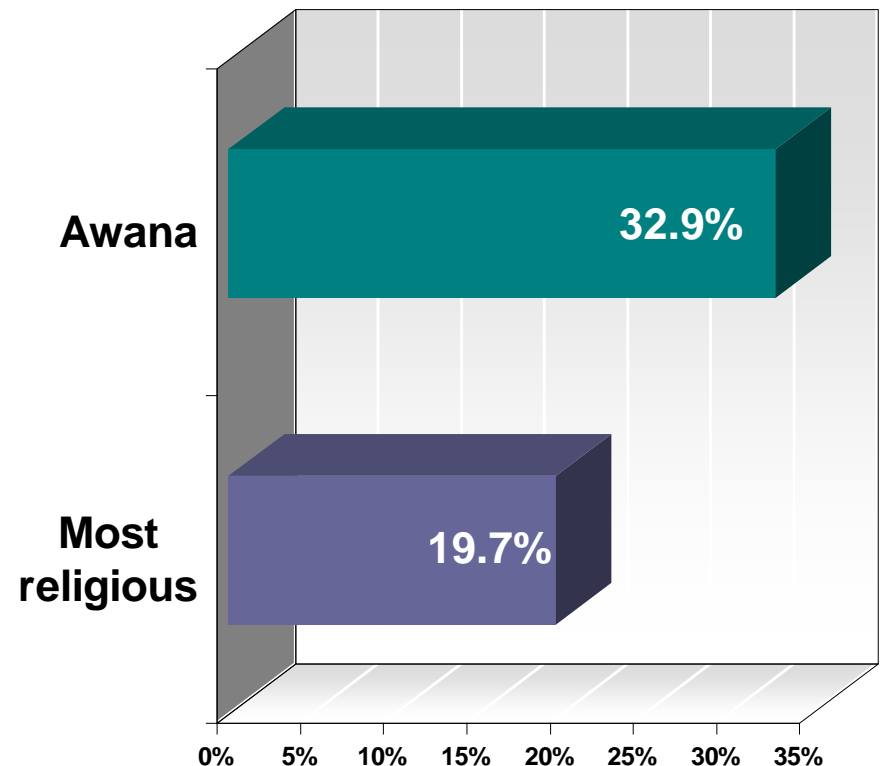
- Despite being young and therefore less financially secure, Awana alumni annually gave to their church...

Over \$10,000



- Though there is no reason to assume that Awana alumni are more musical, they participate more in choir than even the most religious segment in America.

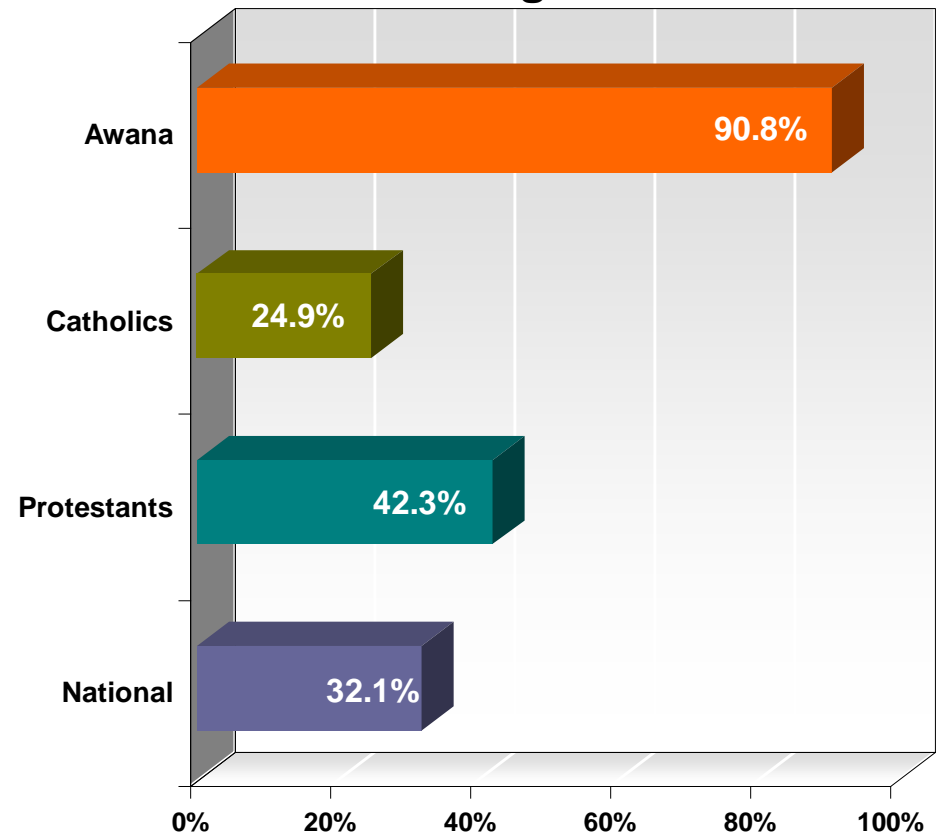
Participated in Choir



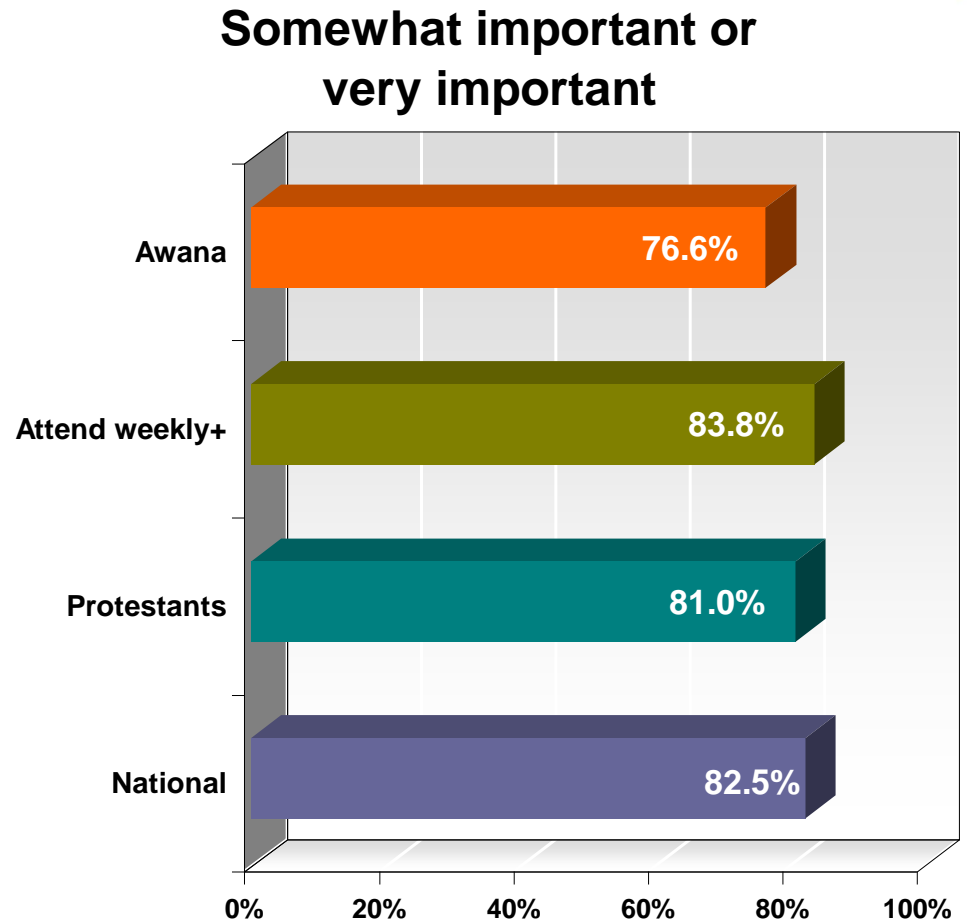
Moral Attitudes

- Awana alumni are overwhelmingly more likely than other surveyed to believe that sexual relations before marriage is always wrong.

Sex before marriage is always wrong



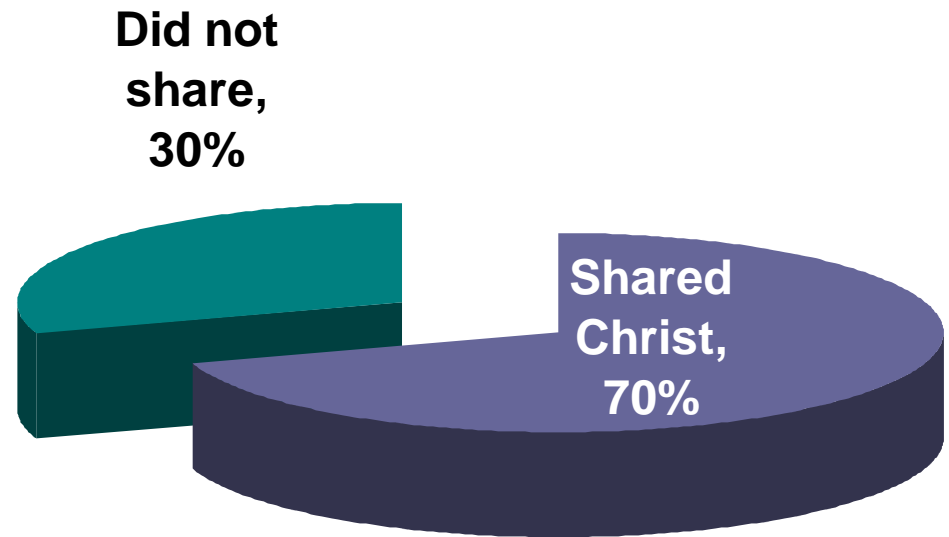
- *“In order to be a good person, is it important to seek social and economic justice?”*
- NOTE: This question did not qualify what was meant by “good person.”





Duty to Share Christ

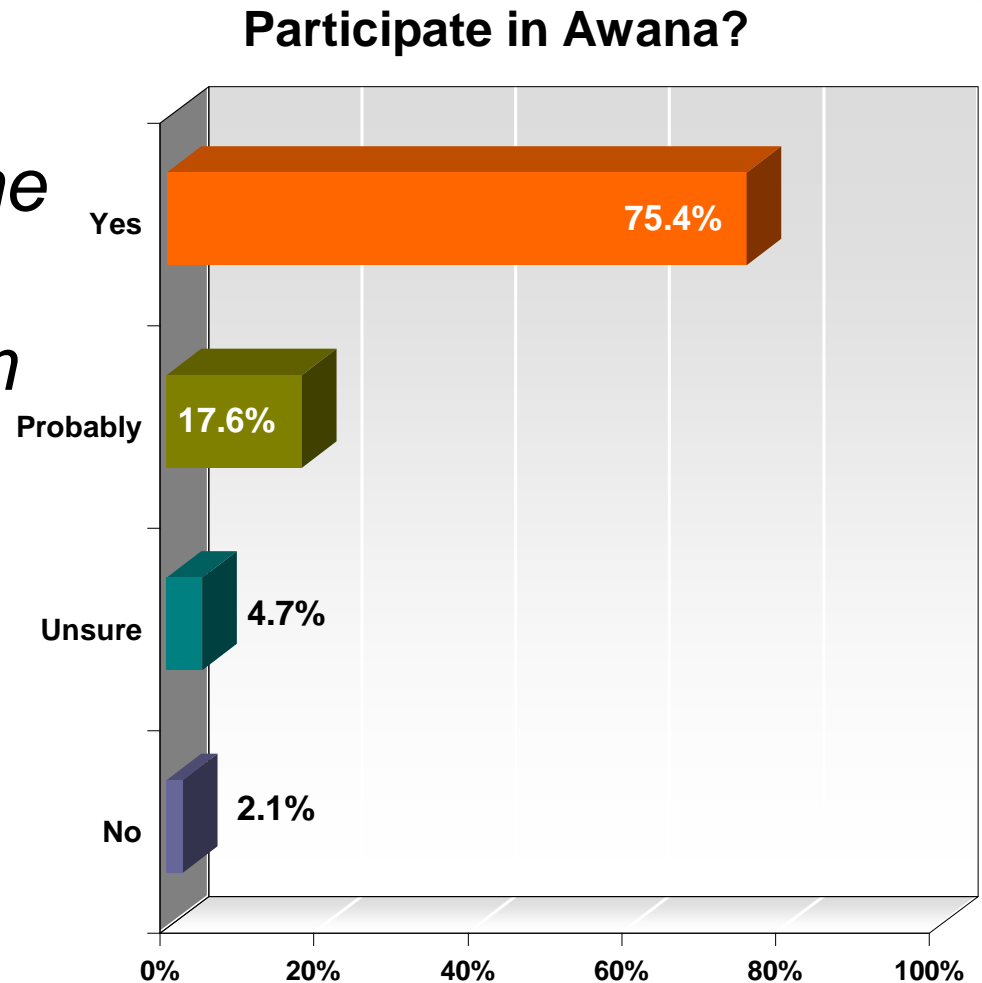
- *70% of Awana alumni talked with their friends about Christ in the previous month.*





Participation by Children

- If you have children now or would like to have children at some point in the future, would you want them to participate in an Awana program?*





In Summary...

Despite America still being a relatively religious country, Awana alumni far outstrip the average American in almost every area of Christian life – both in terms of beliefs and actions.

– CT Creative



In Summary...

While the original intent was to gather information that could be used as an outreach to those not involved in Awana, the results are so positive that they should be shared with everyone involved in Awana at the local church level.

– CT Creative