



**GLOBAL
STRATEGY**
CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES

Missions Experience Training

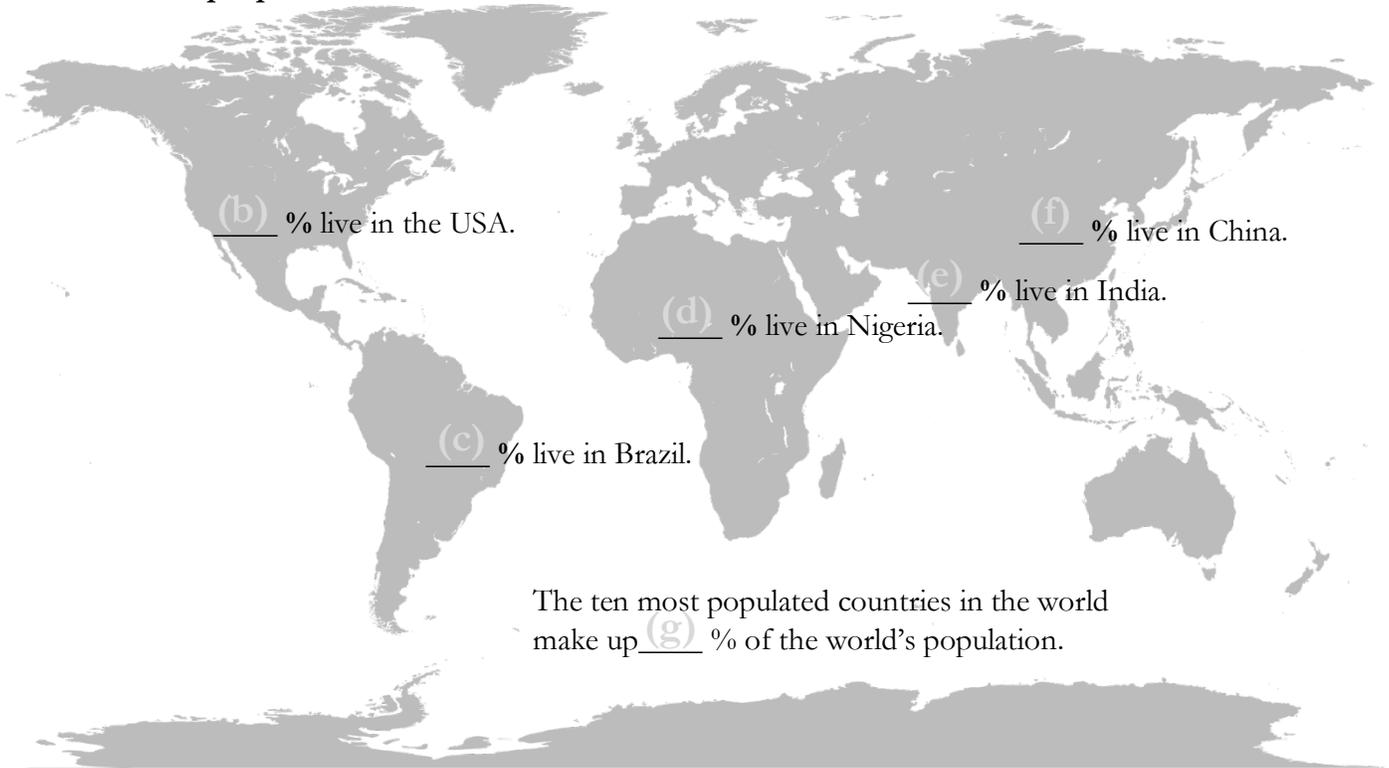
Meeting Two: The Global Church



The World

At the current rate of population growth, experts predict a population of (a) billion people by the year 2025.

Where do people live?

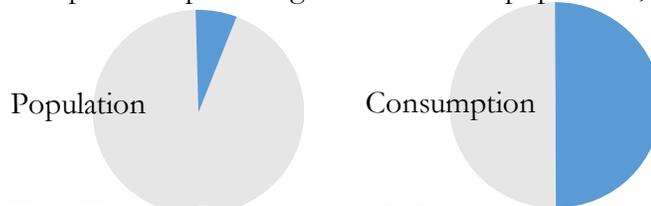


Other Stats

- (h) % of the world's population is under the age of 15.
- (i) % of people in the world live on **\$1** a day.
- (j) % of people in the world live on **\$2** a day.
- (k) % of people live between **\$2 and \$70** a day.
- (l) % of people live on more than **\$70** a day.

The combined income of the (m) wealthiest people in the world is larger than the combined income of (n) % of the world's population.

Though Americans only make up a small percentage of the world's population, we consume (o) % of the world's resources.



Check out the video, *If the World Were 100 People* by GOOD Data to see this information animated. Find the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFrqTFRy-LU>

(a) ~8, (b) 5, (c) 3, (d) 2, (e) 17, (f) 20, (g) ~60, (h) 40, (i) 20, (j) 20, (k) 40, (l) 20, (m) 447, (n) 50, (o) 50

The Global Church

Just as the population of the world is shifting, the demographics of Christianity have shifted over the last few centuries. Here are some important statistics that point to this change!

The Shift

In 1800 (a) % of Christians lived outside North America and Western Europe.

In 1900 (b) % of Christians lived outside North America and Western Europe.

In 2000 more than (c) % of Christians lived outside North America and Western Europe.

**The typical Christian, statistically speaking,
is young, poor, theologically conservative, female, and a person of color.**

Other Statistics

On average (d) people convert to Christianity daily.

When China became closed to missionaries in 1950, there were reportedly (e) million Christians in China. Today estimates are near (f) million.

None of the (g) largest churches in the world are found in North America.

There are (h) million Christians in Africa. There are more Christians in Africa than the total population of the United States and Canada combined.

Why the shift?

Christianity is not tied to ethnic identity, local culture, or geographic location.
(Patrick Nachtigall, *Faith in the Future*)

One reason for this is that the New Testament, from the outset, was a translated text. Jesus spoke Aramaic and the New Testament was written in Koine Greek. From the beginning, Christianity has had to cross cultural and linguistic boundaries.

Missions

The country sending the most missionaries (total) is the United States, but others, such as Brazil and South Korea, are sending increasingly more missionaries. Though the US sends the most total missionaries, it is ranked (i) on the list of missionaries sent per million church members.

Globally, only (j) % of people from other faith traditions personally know a Christian.

The country that receives the most missionaries is (k).

The ten countries with the most non-Christians in 2010 have (l) % of all non-Christians globally.

But, with restricted access to missionaries, they received only (m) % of all international missionaries.

Though this is a sad fact, there are a large number of home missionaries (Christian involved in mission work within their own country) at work in these countries.

Statistics from *Serving with Eyes Wide Open*, David Livermore; *Faith in the Future*, Patrick Nachtigall; *The Next Christendom*, Philip Jenkins; "Christianity in Its Global Context," Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell.

(a) 1, (b) 10, (c) 65, (d) 178,000, (e) 1, (f) 100, (g) 50, (h) 400, (i) 9, (j) 19, (k) the United States, (l) 73, (m) 9

The Church of God

The Church of God (Anderson) looks surprisingly like the global church. Here are some statistics about the Church of God.

- The Church of God (Anderson) can be found in **88** countries around the world.
- There are a total of **896,306** believers worldwide.
- **37 %** of Church of God believers are in Africa.
- **74 %** of Church of God believers live outside of North America.
- There are **7,916** churches worldwide.

For more information, check out: chogglobal.org and jesusisthesubject.org.

The Mission Field at Home

One of the beautiful things about living in a globalizing world is how much of that world comes to us. Even though you may not be able to live in another country on a full-time basis, you can serve those who come to the United States from all around the world.

In the United States, there are **14,000,000** immigrants. This provides an incredible opportunity for us to show the hospitality and hope of Christ to all who enter our border. **Here are three reasons why welcoming immigrants is so important.**

1 First, immigration brings people from many faith backgrounds to our neighborhoods.

87% of Hindus and 61% of Muslims in the United States are immigrants. (Pew Research)

2 Second, there are many people moving from other countries to the United States to be missionaries. We should welcome this, as many come to minister to people from their home culture living abroad.

3 Third, this is part of our heritage as Christians. We are a people that welcome because it is Jesus who first welcomed us. And we should continue to reflect and live out that reality.

“Hospitality to needy strangers distinguished the early church from its surrounding environment. Noted as exceptional by Christians and non-Christians alike, offering care to strangers became one of the distinguishing marks of the authenticity of the Christian gospel and of the church.”

Christine Pohl, *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition*