

# Millennial church diversity survey

## Welcome

The One People Commission of the Evangelical Alliance would like to find out about the beliefs, habits and practices of Christians aged between 18 and 37 – particularly drawing out any differences among those who are from minority ethnic backgrounds.

The findings will form the basis of a resource designed to help ethnic minority church leaders navigate a changing landscape of culture and meet the needs of young people in their congregations, enabling them to have a vibrant, fulfilled faith.

All answers are anonymous. If you'd really rather not answer a particular question you can always leave it blank. People vary, but we estimate the survey shouldn't take longer than about 20 minutes, unless you choose to write a lot in open-ended comment boxes.

### **\*PRIZE DRAW\***

Enter your email address at the end of the survey to be entered into a prize draw for a £30 book voucher.

## About you

### 1. Your gender:

- Male  Female

### 2. Are you...?

- Under 18  
 18-21  
 22-25  
 26-29  
 30-33  
 34-37  
 38-41  
 Over 41

### 3. Are you...?

- Single  
 In a relationship  
 Cohabiting  
 Married

## About you

### 4. In which region or nation of the UK do you normally reside?

- London (within M25)
- South-east England outside London (Kent, Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire)
- East Anglia (Essex, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)
- East Midlands (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire)
- West Midlands (Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Birmingham & West Midlands conurbation, Worcestershire)
- South-west England (Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire, Devon, Cornwall)
- North-west England (Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire)
- North-east England (Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear, Teesside)
- Yorkshire and the Humber
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Elsewhere or outside UK

### 5. How long have you lived in the UK?

- All my life
- Most of my life
- For a few years
- Not very long
- I don't live in the UK

### 6. Where were you born?

- In the UK
- Elsewhere in Europe
- In Africa
- In Asia
- In the Middle East
- In North America
- In South America
- In Australasia
- Somewhere else (please specify)

## 7. What is your ethnicity?

- Black (African)
- Black (Caribbean)
- Black British (African)
- Black British (Caribbean)
- Mixed race
- South Asian
- East Asian (including Chinese)
- Asian British
- Arab
- Arab British
- White British
- White (other, please specify below)
- Other (please specify)

## Employment status

### 8. What is your current employment status?

#### Please tick only one answer

- I am employee with one paid job only
- I am an employee with two or more paid jobs
- I work on a self-employed basis
- I am unemployed and seeking work
- I am a full-time student with no paid work
- I am a student with a part-time job
- I am currently a full-time homemaker or carer
- I am retired
- I am not currently employed and not looking for work, or not able to work
- Other (please specify)

## As a student

### 9. As a student are you part of a church?

- Just a church near my home
- Just a church at university, away from home
- Both a church at home and one at university
- I live at home and attend a church there
- No, I don't attend a church

## About you

### 10. What is the highest educational or professional qualification you have obtained?

- No qualifications
- GCSEs or equivalent
- BTEC, diploma, apprenticeship or vocational qualification achieved after leaving school
- A-levels (Highers) or equivalent
- A university degree
- Postgraduate qualifications (Higher degree or postgraduate professional qualification)

## While at university

### 11. When you were at university were you part of a church or Christian fellowship?

- Yes
- Yes, but I didn't go regularly
- No

If you answered 'no' or didn't go regularly, why was that?



## About you

### 12. Would you consider yourself to be a Christian?

- Yes
- No, I never have
- No, although I used to
- Not sure/it's complicated

## Thank you

Thank you for taking part in this survey.

The survey is aimed at Christians, so as you've indicated you are not one you may struggle to answer the rest of the questions.

You may like to visit our website [www.threadsuk.com](http://www.threadsuk.com) where there are a range of relevant, thought-provoking articles.

## Faith and life

### 13. How long have you been (or were you) a Christian?

- All my life
- Most of my life
- A few years
- Not very long

### 14. How would you describe your faith at the moment?

- It's at an all-time high
- As strong as it's always been
- It's been better
- As weak as it's always been
- It's at an all-time low

Please explain your answer

### 15. How significant is your faith in the decisions you make?

- It is the most important factor
- It is a factor, but there are other more important (or equally important) factors
- It is not a particularly important factor

### 16. In the last year, do you feel you've grown as a Christian?

- Yes, a lot
- Yes, a little
- No

### 17. Which of the following statements best describes the place of doubt in your faith?

- I rarely doubt any aspect of my faith
- I do have occasional doubts, but it never really puts my faith in jeopardy
- I have frequent (or continual) doubt, but my faith is strong enough to cope
- I have serious doubts and I am not sure my faith will survive

**Doubts**

**18. What causes you to doubt your faith?**

## Faith and life

### 19. Do you have a mentor/someone you are honest with and accountable to about your life and faith?

- Yes, a Christian from my church
- Yes, a Christian from outside my church
- Yes, a Christian group of friends
- Yes, though they are not a Christian
- No, not specifically

### 20. On average, how often do you read the Bible?

- Every day
- A few times a week
- Once a week
- Less than once a week

### 21. On average, how often do you pray?

- Every day
- A few times a week
- Once a week
- Less than once a week

## Faith and life

### 22. When was the last time you talked about your faith with someone who wouldn't call themselves a Christian?

- In the past week
- In the past month
- In the past three months
- In the past six months
- It's been longer than six months

### 23. When an opportunity opens up for you to talk about your faith with someone who is not a Christian, do you usually...?

- Seize the opportunity with eagerness and ease
- Take the opportunity, but feel nervous and awkward
- Change the subject
- Other (please specify below)

Why is this your response?

## Faith and life

**24. Who in the Christian world inspires you (through teaching, online sermons, articles, books, theology)?**

**Please put each name on a separate line**

**25. Which Christian teaching do you find most benefits you?**

- Sermons/teaching streams from my own church
- Podcasts from other Christian leaders around the world
- Christian TV shows
- Online blogs and web articles
- Social media
- Christian magazines
- Other (please specify)

## Church

If are a student and have a home church and a church at university, please answer the questions for the church you attend most frequently.

### 26. Do you attend a specific church?

Yes

No



## Church

### 27. Are there particular reasons why you don't attend a specific church?

#### Please tick all that apply

- I find I can be a strong Christian without going to church
- I've just moved and am looking for a new church
- I attend different churches each week rather than one particular one
- I find attending church doesn't help me in my faith
- I really struggle with the way churches are run
- I don't go to church because I have been hurt by a church in the past
- I have never attended a church
- Other (please specify)

## Hurts in church

**28. Have you ever been really hurt by people in a church you attended?**

- Yes
- No

## Hurts in church

**29. When you were hurt by people in a church you attended, which of the following did you experience?**

**Please tick all that apply**

- I really struggled to deal with the hurt caused, but I am now over it
- I continue to really struggle with the hurt caused
- The situation almost made me lose my faith
- God used the situation to grow my faith
- I was able to reconcile with the people who hurt me
- Other people in the church supported me through that hard time
- The church leadership supported me through that hard time
- I am still attending that church
- The situation meant I ended up leaving that church

If you would like to share about the situation and how the church responded, you can do so here

## Church

If are a student and have a home church and a church at university, please answer the questions for the church you attend most frequently.

### 30. To which denomination does your church belong?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Assemblies of God                               | <input type="radio"/> Brethren Church        |
| <input type="radio"/> Church of God of Prophecy                       | <input type="radio"/> Church of England      |
| <input type="radio"/> Elim Pentecostal                                | <input type="radio"/> Church of Scotland     |
| <input type="radio"/> New Testament Church of God                     | <input type="radio"/> Methodist              |
| <input type="radio"/> Redeemed Christian Church of God                | <input type="radio"/> Newfrontiers           |
| <input type="radio"/> Other Pentecostal church (please specify below) | <input type="radio"/> Presbyterian           |
| <input type="radio"/> Independent evangelical                         | <input type="radio"/> Salvation Army         |
| <input type="radio"/> Chinese Church in London                        | <input type="radio"/> United Reformed Church |
| <input type="radio"/> Baptist   | <input type="radio"/> Vineyard               |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify)                          |  |

### 31. How often do you attend the main gathering (eg Sunday service) of the church that you belong to?

- Weekly
- Fortnightly
- Monthly
- Less often

## Church

### 32. Do you have any leadership responsibilities within your church?

|  | Yes                   | No                    |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sole or joint leader (paid or unpaid)  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Part of your church's leadership team (eg elder)                                       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Leadership role within a specific area (eg small group leader or lead children's work) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

### 33. Do you serve as part of your church in activities that benefit the church family? (For example, help on the welcome team, the preaching rota, the youth or children's work, part of the worship team)

- Yes  No

### 34. Which of the following best describes your relationship with those in your church?

- I have many close relationships with people in my church
- I have a few close relationships with people in my church
- I don't really know many other people in my church
- I don't have any close relationships with people in my church

## Church

### 35. Why do you attend your church?

#### Please tick the top two reasons

- I attended this church with my parents when I was younger and have stayed there
- Because it's close to where I live
- Because the people are loving and supportive – they are my family
- Because I specifically felt God called me to be a part of it
- Other (please tell us)
- Because there are people from a similar background to me
- Because my spiritual needs are met there
- Because I am given lots of opportunities to serve

### 36. Have you regularly attended another church before joining this one?

- Yes
- No, this is my first church

## Your previous church

### 37. Why did you leave your previous church?

#### Please tick all that apply

- Because I moved location
- Because I got married and started attending my spouse's church
- Because I felt God calling me to attend my new church
- Because I felt I wasn't growing spiritually
- Because I struggled with the way the church was run
- Because I wanted to attend a more diverse church
- Because I was hurt by people there
- Because I didn't have opportunities to serve and lead
- Because I didn't have many friends there
- Other (please specify)

## Church

### 38. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

|  | Agree a lot           | Agree a little        | Unsure                | Disagree a little     | Disagree a lot        |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| My church gives opportunities for young adults to develop their gifts and take leadership responsibilities | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| There are people I can look up to and learn from in my church  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel my church leaders care about church members and make an effort to get to know them                  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I am often frustrated with my church and think of leaving  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I fully understand and support the vision of my church   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| My church is a family to me  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I feel older people in my church struggle to relate with me  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Even though I am at church regularly, I am just going through the motions – my heart and mind are far away | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |



## Hurts in church

**39. Have you ever been really hurt by people in a church you attended?**

- Yes
- No

## Hurts in church

**40. When you were hurt by people in a church you attended, which of the following did you experience?**

**Please tick all that apply**

- I really struggled to deal with the hurt caused, but I am now over it
- I continue to really struggle with the hurt caused
- The situation almost made me lose my faith
- God used the situation to grow my faith
- I was able to reconcile with the people who hurt me
- Other people in the church supported me through that hard time
- The church leadership supported me through that hard time
- I am still attending that church
- The situation meant I ended up leaving that church

If you would like to share about the situation and how the church responded, you can do so here

## Church

### 41. Which of the following best describes the age range within your church?

- My church is multi-generational
- The majority of people in my church are older than me
- The majority of people in my church are around my age
- The majority of people in my church are younger than me

### 42. Which of the following best describes the ethnic make-up of your church?

- My church is ethnically diverse
- Most of the people in my church are of the same ethnicity as me
- Most of the people in my church are of a different ethnicity to me

### 43. To what extent is your church influenced by a particular cultural background?

- Not at all
- A little
- A significant amount
- It's predominantly influenced by cultural background

### 44. Do you think it's necessary for churches to reflect the cultural make-up of their area in order for them to reflect the kingdom of God?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Please tell us the reasons for your answer

## Church

### 45. Would you feel comfortable inviting your friends to church?

- Yes
- Yes, but only my Christian friends
- No

Please tell us the reasons for your answer

### 46. Use three words to describe what you like about your church

Please put each word on a separate line

### 47. Use three words to describe what you dislike/find frustrating about your church

Please put each word on a separate line

### 48. How well does your church help you...?

|   | A lot                 | A little              | Not really            | Not applicable        |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Connect with God                              | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Connect with other Christians                 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Live out your faith in your everyday life     | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Increase your understanding of the Bible      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Transform your life to be more like Christ    | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Use your skills and gifts to serve God        | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Develop leadership skills and experience      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Engage in social action                       | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| In your personal evangelism                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Live out your faith at work                   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Have opportunities to meet a marriage partner | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

## Identity

### 49. How important is your ethnicity to your personal sense of identity?

- I rarely think about my ethnicity and don't think it's important in my identity
- My ethnicity is something I occasionally think about
- My ethnicity is an essential part of my identity, but there are other things I think are more important
- My ethnicity is the most important part of my identity

Please explain your answer

### 50. To what extent do you identify with the cultural background(s) of your parents?

- I identify fully with my parents' cultural background(s)
- I identify with some parts of my parents' cultural background(s)
- I don't really identify with my parents' cultural background(s)
- I feel far removed from the cultural background(s) of my parents

Please explain your answer

## Identity

### **51. Which one of the following statements best describes your relationship to the 'evangelical' label?**

- I consider myself an evangelical Christian and frequently use the word 'evangelical' when describing myself as a Christian
- I consider myself an evangelical Christian and occasionally use the word 'evangelical' when describing myself as a Christian
- I consider myself an evangelical Christian but would never use the word 'evangelical' when describing myself as a Christian
- I do not consider myself to be an evangelical Christian
- I am unsure what the word 'evangelical' means

The word 'evangelical'

52. Why do you use the word 'evangelical'?

The word 'evangelical'

53. Why don't you use the word 'evangelical'?



The word 'evangelical'

**54. What is the main reason you do not consider yourself to be an evangelical Christian?**

## Beliefs

### 55. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

|   | Agree a lot           | Agree a little        | Unsure                | Disagree a little     | Disagree a lot        |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| The Bible is the inspired word of God   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The Bible should have supreme authority in guiding my beliefs, views and behaviour  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| The Bible in its original manuscript is without error   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Christians should be committed to a church and attend regularly   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Evolution and Christianity are incompatible: you cannot believe both  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Humans are separated from God as a result of sin  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Jesus was fully human and fully God   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Jesus rose from the dead  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| On the cross Jesus received God's punishment for our sins   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Jesus could return at any moment to wrap up this stage of human history   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| This life is all there is, there is no afterlife  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Hell is a place where the condemned will suffer eternal conscious pain  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Women should be eligible for all roles within the Church in the same way men are  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Christians should not marry 'non-Christians'  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Sexual intercourse outside of marriage is always wrong  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cohabitation is not something an unmarried Christian couple should do   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Homosexual actions are always wrong   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Regardless of whether I think homosexuality is right or wrong, I think in our plural society same-sex couples should be able to marry | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Abortion can never be justified (unless the mother's life is in immediate danger)   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Assisted suicide is wrong   | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

## Giving

**56. In the past year, have you given money to any of the following?**

**Please tick all that apply**

- Your church
- Individual missionaries
- Christian charities
- Non-Christian charities
- Individual homeless people
- Individuals you know who are in need
- Other charitable causes

**57. Approximately how much of your money do you give away?**

- Almost nothing
- One to four per cent
- Five to nine per cent
- 10 per cent
- More than 10 per cent

**58. Which of the following statements best describes your approach to financial giving?**

- My giving is organised
- I give as and when I see a need
- It is organised and I also give as and when I see a need
- I rarely give any money

## Enter our prize draw

**59. If you would like to enter our prize draw for a £30 book voucher, please enter your email address below**

**60. Tick here if you would like to receive via email...**

- A summary of the research findings
- Thursday Threads, our weekly thought-provoking devotional email
- More information about Threads and the Evangelical Alliance

## You have finished

Thank you for completing this survey.

Please tell your friends about it and encourage them to take part.

Threads is a collective of Christians from all walks of life, who are living, working and trying to carve out our identity in our worlds. Visit [www.threadsuk.com](http://www.threadsuk.com) to find out more.