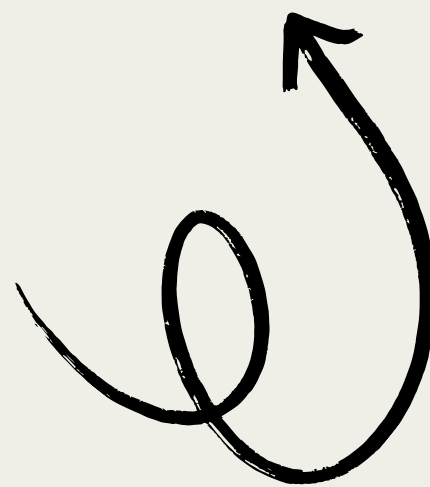


# Intro to Frontier People Groups



# God is Gathering Worshippers From all Peoples

## Revelation 7:9

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands”





# No Empty Seats: The Urgency of the Unreached

**"And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.'"**

**Luke 14:23**

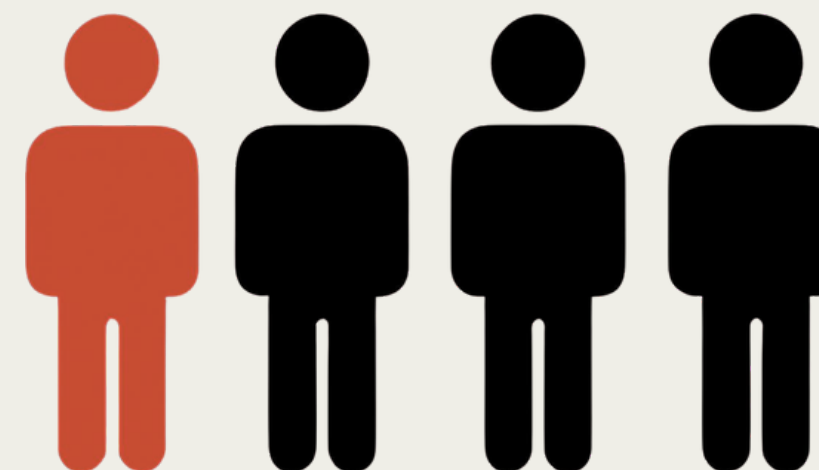
**God's heart is for the banquet hall to be full.  
The question is: Who is still missing?**



# 1.9 Billion Souls Without Hope

**Did you know that 24% of humanity lives in people groups where...**

- **Fewer than 1 in 1,000 people are Christ-followers**
- **0.1% of the population identify as Christian**
- **There is no evidence of a self-sustaining church movement**
- **There is little to no access to the Gospel**





# Who Are Frontier People Groups?

When we talk about cross-cultural missions, we often focus on the “unreached.”

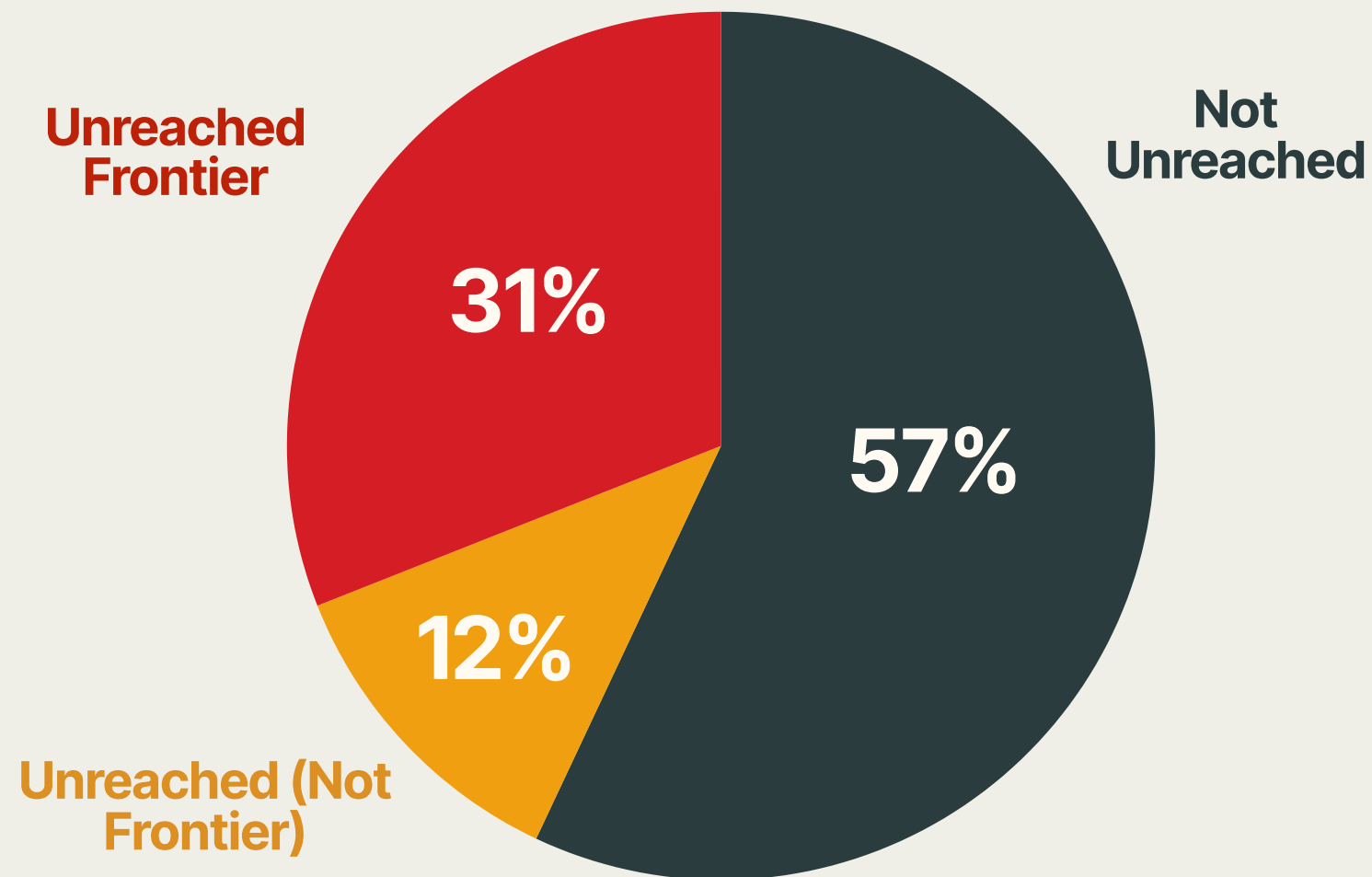
But within that group is a sub-category of unreached peoples that demand urgent action. People with little to no gospel presence and no established local church.

These are the Frontier People Groups.

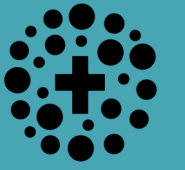
Level	Description	Criteria
1a	<b>Unreached (Frontier)</b> - Less than 1 in 1,000 (0.1%) identify as Christians in any way. *	Evangelicals <=0.1% Professing Christians <=0.1%
1b	<b>Unreached (non-Frontier)</b> - Few evangelicals and little, if any, history of Christianity. ■	Evangelicals >0.1% and <=2% Professing Christians >0.1% and <=5%
1	<b>Unreached (All)</b> - Few evangelicals and few who identify as Christians. Little, if any, history of Christianity. *+■	Evangelicals <= 2% Professing Christians <= 5%
2	<b>Minimally reached</b> - Few evangelicals, but significant number who identify as Christians.	Evangelicals <= 2% Professing Christians > 5% and <= 50%
3	<b>Superficially reached</b> - Few evangelicals, but many who identify as Christians. In great need of spiritual renewal and commitment to biblical faith.	Evangelicals <= 2% Professing Christians > 50%
4	<b>Partially reached</b> - Evangelicals have a modest to moderate presence.	Evangelicals > 2% and <= 10%
5	<b>Significantly reached</b> - Evangelicals have a significant presence.	Evangelicals > 10%

# 10,421

## People Groups Across Countries



Last updated 2/12/2026



### 01 Total People Groups

10,421 Total people groups identified world wide


### 02 Unreached People Groups Total

4,487 People groups identified as less than 2% Evangelical or 5% Christian Adherent

### 03 Frontier People Groups

3,209 People Groups identified as less than 0.1% Christian with virtually no established gospel presence

# The Priority of Frontier People Groups



## **Movement Potential**

Gospel movements in the 38 largest Frontier peoples could potentially impact the population of half of all Frontier peoples



## **Maximize Resources**

Concentrated populations offer maximum impact per worker



## **Network Effect**

Gospel breakthrough in Frontier peoples can quickly spread to nearby unreached people groups



## **Completion Vision**

Reaching Frontier People Groups brings us closer to true gospel saturation



# The Challenge We Face

## **Challenge of absolute numbers**

While the Church is growing, so is the absolute number of non-believers. From 1.06 Billion non-believers in 1900 to 5.27 Billion in 2020, as the world population grows, so does the magnitude of our task.

## **Birth rates affect laborers and the harvest field**

The top missionary sending country, the United States, has a birth rate of 1.6, while predominantly Muslim countries like Niger, Chad, and Somalia have birth rates of 5.8 to 5.9

## **Challenge of religious stronghold and persecution**

97.5% of FPG populations are in primarily Muslim or Hindu people groups. Additionally, 9 out of the top 10 countries with the greatest persecution of Christians are predominantly Muslim. The cost of following Christ is very high among FPGs and the thought of abandoning their culture and religion is appalling to most.



# The Challenge *(Continued)*

## **The primary propagation of the Gospel happens through the Church**

Therefore, we need to establish breakthrough churches among FPGs. These church plants require highly intentional, difficult, cross-cultural mission efforts.

## **Many mission efforts work primarily with existing churches**

Most mission efforts focus on the easier task of building up the church rather than pioneering efforts to start churches among peoples with little to no access to culturally relevant churches.

## **Most missionaries go where invited, or where they have a cultural connection**

Existing Christians invite missionaries the most, and most missionaries work among peoples with significant Christian presence. Frontier people groups make up the largest portion of unreached people groups, yet have the smallest distribution of international workers.



# LIMITED FINANCES DIRECTED TOWARD UNEVANGELIZED

## 20X

Out of Christian giving globally, over **20 times** the amount given to the unevangelized was lost to fraud and embezzlement.

**Information Sources:** World Christian Trends Table (2001). Atlas of Global Christianity (2010); Tracking \$52.6 billion in ecclesiastical crime, [gordonconwell.edu/blog/ecclesiastical-crime/](http://gordonconwell.edu/blog/ecclesiastical-crime/).

## Question

For every **\$1,000** given globally to Christian causes, how much is directed to work among the world's unevangelized population?

**Around**

**\$3**



# How Can You Engage the Final Frontier?

## **Focus on the top 300 Frontier People Groups**

The top 300 comprise 80% of the FPG population and 20% of the total world population

## **Pray about your role**

Ask the Lord of the Harvest what role you or your church can play in reaching on of these Frontier People Groups

## **Take Action**

Create an engagement strategy. Adopt one of these people groups as your own and lay out a plan to see them reached

# FRONTIER PEOPLE GROUP ADOPTION



**Top 300 FPGs**  
20% of world's  
population



**100,000 FPG  
ADOPTIONS**



[joshuaproject.net/adopt](https://joshuaproject.net/adopt)

# “May the Lamb that was slain receive the reward of His Suffering”

-Moravian Missionary Rallying Cry

Jesus died for them to know His love, but so many are dying without ever hearing His name.

We are His hands and feet, how will they know unless we go?





# THANK YOU

Highlighting peoples and places with the least access or response to the Gospel so the Body of Christ can prioritize its prayer and mission efforts.

[joshuaproject.net](https://joshuaproject.net)

