

# The Gospel and Different World-Views

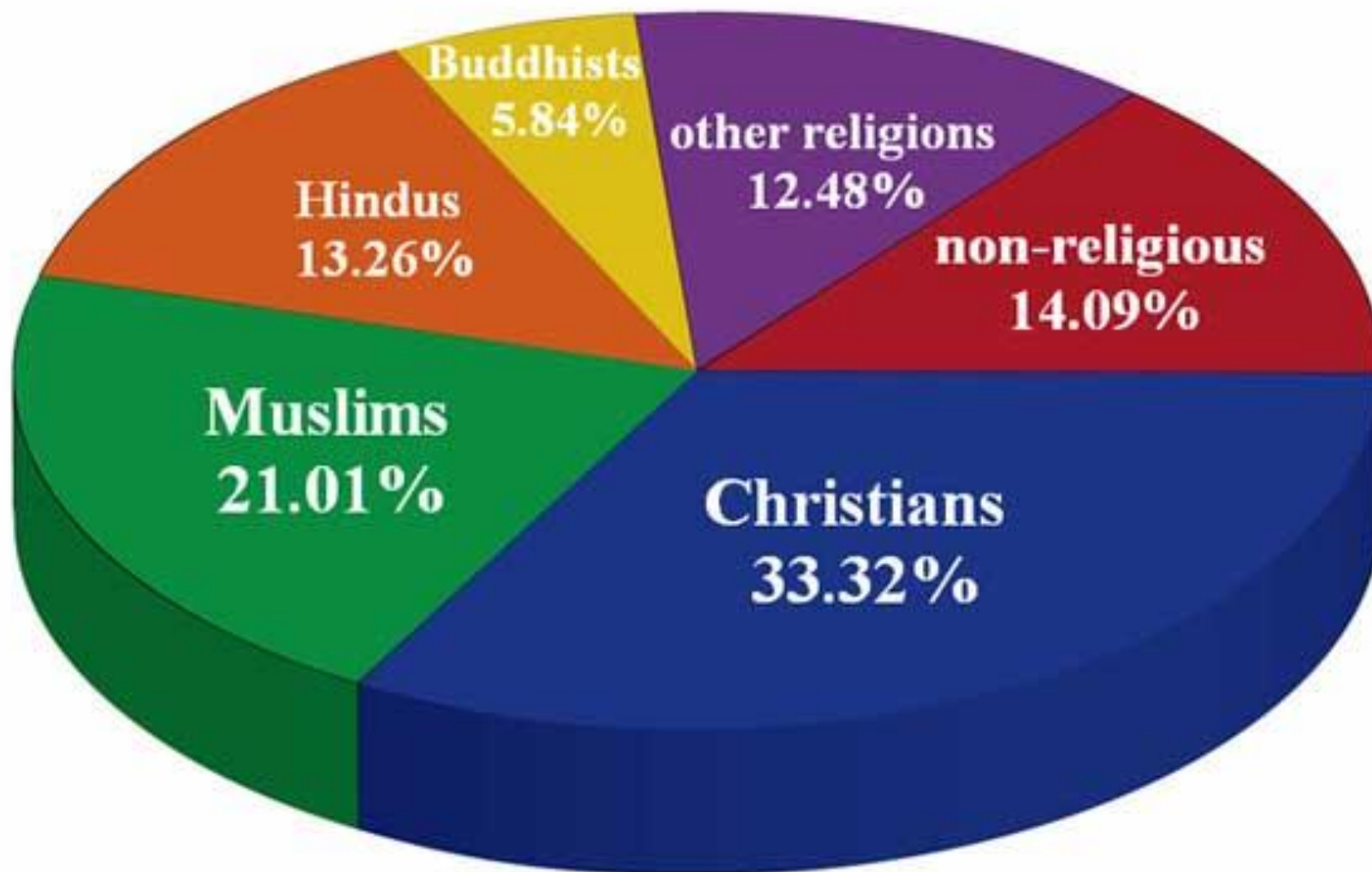


A Look At Nominal  
Christianity  
Graham Grove, 2020

# Question

So what are the major religions around the world  
and in Australia?

## World Religions by percentage

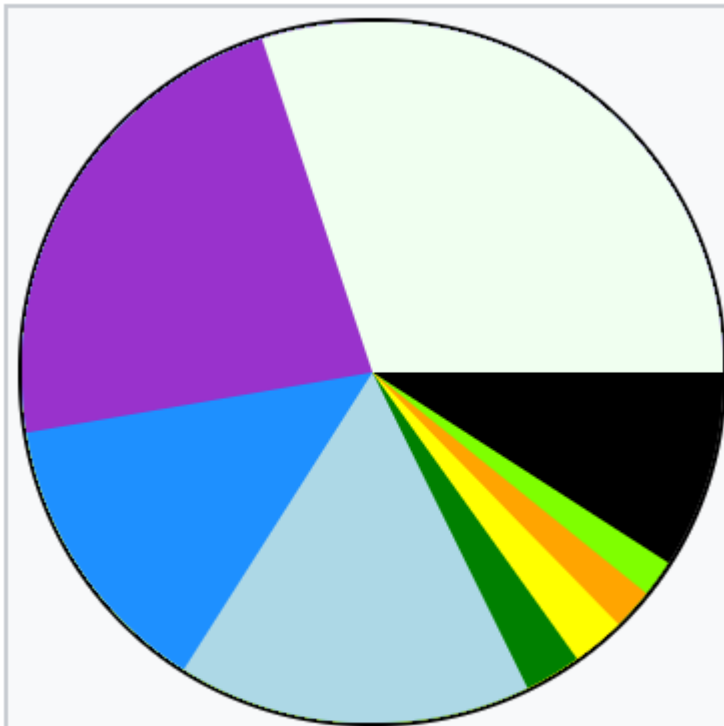


***Source: CIA World Factbook 2010***

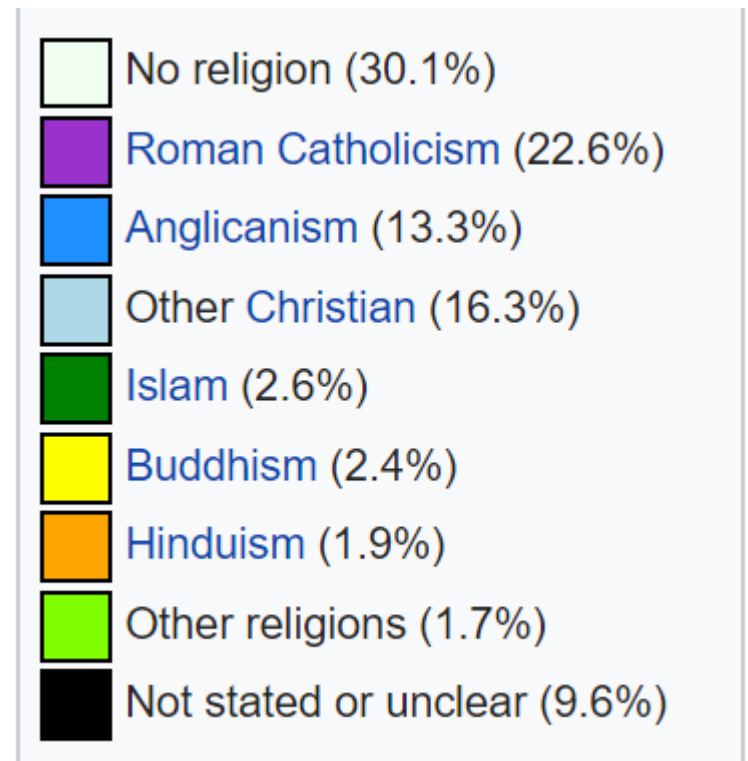
# Question

And what are the major religions in Australia?

# Religion data belief in Australia



Religion in Australia as declared in the 2016 census<sup>[1][2]</sup>



# Question

What do you think about the census result showing 52% of Australians are Christians?

# Question

What's a nominal Christian?

# A story

I met Chris in the late 90s. He'd been coming to church for a few weeks and expressed an interest in getting more involved. The more we talked, the more obvious it became Chris didn't grasp the gospel. He called himself a Christian but misunderstood the basics. I invited him to study the Bible with me. He agreed, and we went to work.

After several long conversations, Chris matter-of-factly concluded, "Aaron, I'm glad we've had these Bible studies. Before we started, I would have said I'm a Christian, and now I know I'm not."



# A story

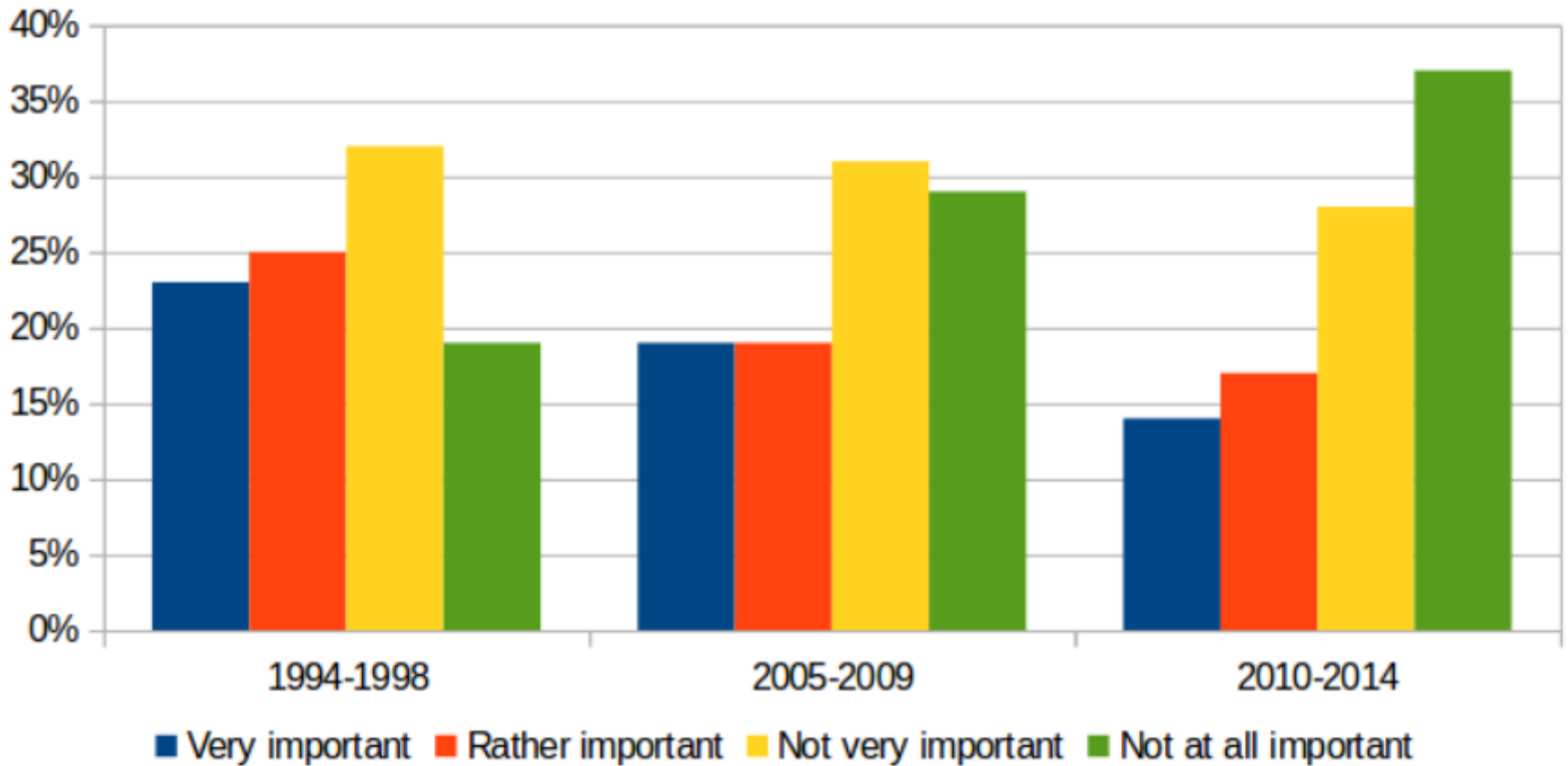
Unfortunately, Chris stopped attending church. His departure discouraged me. Like the rich young ruler (Mark 10:17–27), Chris found following Jesus too costly. He loved the world. Though I was (and am) sad about how our relationship ended, I'm grateful he finally understood what Christianity is all about. Who knows, maybe the gospel seeds planted in those studies have come to bear fruit in his life.

Any other short stories to share?

# Nominal Christians

[What is a nominal Christian? - YouTube](#)

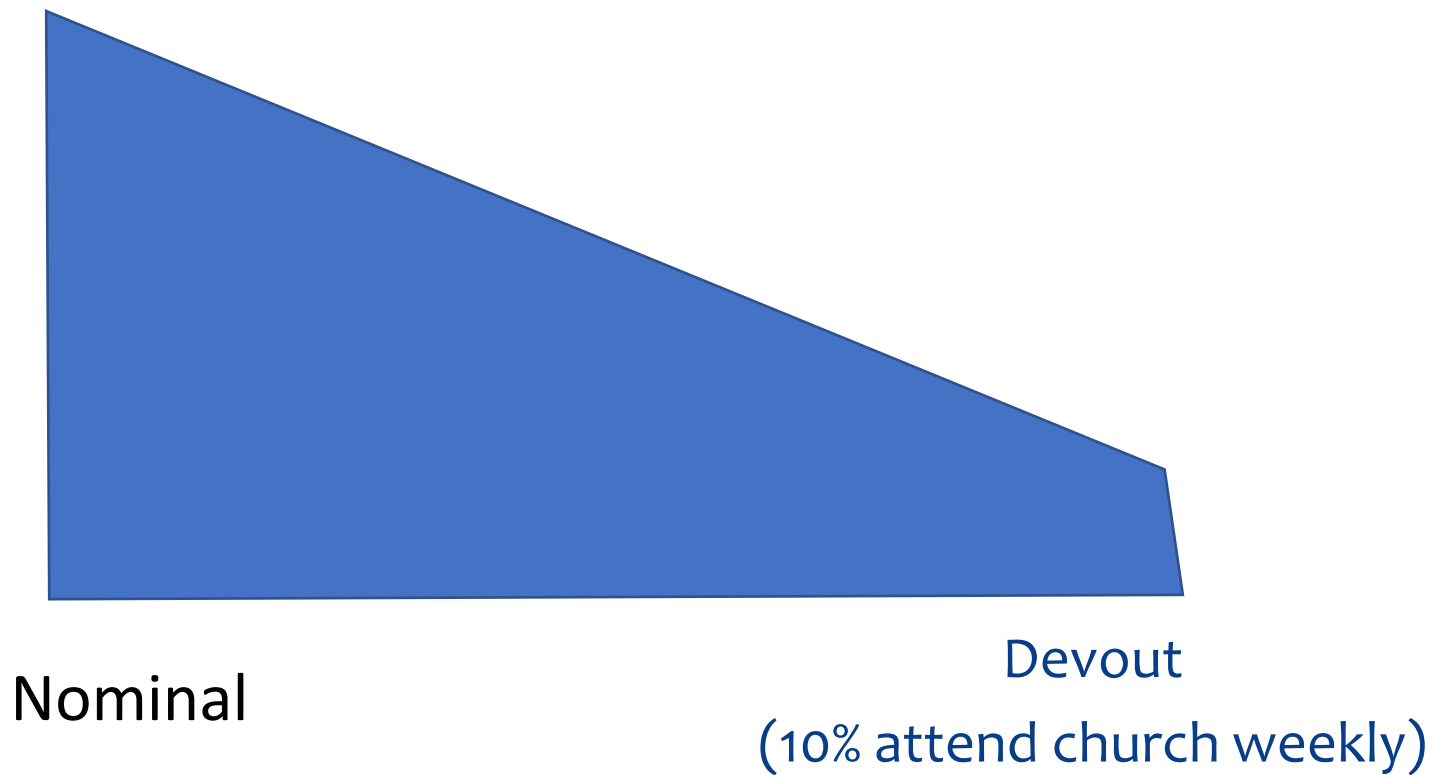
## Important in life: Religion



The proportion of Australian respondents to the [World Values Survey](#) saying religion is "Not at all important" to them has increased from 19% in 1994-98 to 37% in 2010-2014<sup>[34]</sup>



# What's the state of Christianity in Australia?



# Why Many Christians Are Deceived - David Platt

[https://youtu.be/4xG\\_4LuyLZE](https://youtu.be/4xG_4LuyLZE)

# Similarities and Differences Between Committed and Nominal Christians

Similarities	Differences
Believe that Jesus was real / the idea of Jesus	Lack of belief in the need for Jesus to pay the price for sin - nominal
Valuing being a good person	I'm okay; I'm a good person so I'm forgiven – nominal I'm not okay but I am forgiven – God is transforming me - committed
	Life focus on glory to God – committed Life focus on something else - nominal
Comfort in their Christian faith	
Prayer – especially when in difficulty The Lord's prayer etc. can bring comfort	Understanding of prayer and God's will is different
	Bearing a grudge – all humans Forgiving - committed
The Bible has good teaching in it	The Bible is God's word – committed

# Why Evangelize Nominal Christians?

“Therefore as you go, make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded.”



# How to Connect with Nominal Christians?

# Lausanne Movement

[Christian Witness to Nominal Christians Among Protestants \(LOP 23\) | Lausanne Movement](#)

# Perspective

[Perspective December 2018.pdf \(mvbchurch.org\)](#)

Prayer