

Have you ever felt like
giving up...?

FOR SANITY REASONS, I'VE
DECIDED TO GIVE UP
GIVING UP



So what has God got to say to us ?

2 Cor 4:15

For this reason, we do not lose heart

Paul had every reason to give up

2 Cor 1:8

⁸ We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death.

Paul had every reason to give up

2 Cor 7:5

⁵ For when we came into Macedonia, we had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn—conflicts on the outside, fears within.

Paul had every reason to give up

2 Cor 11:23-29

I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again.²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one.²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea,²⁶ I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers.²⁷ I have laboured and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.²⁸ Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches.²⁹ Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

So what has God got to say to us ?

2 Cor 4:15

For this reason, we do not lose heart

So what has God got to say to us ?

1. Be thankful – His grace is reaching more and more people

2 Cor 4:15

¹⁵ All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

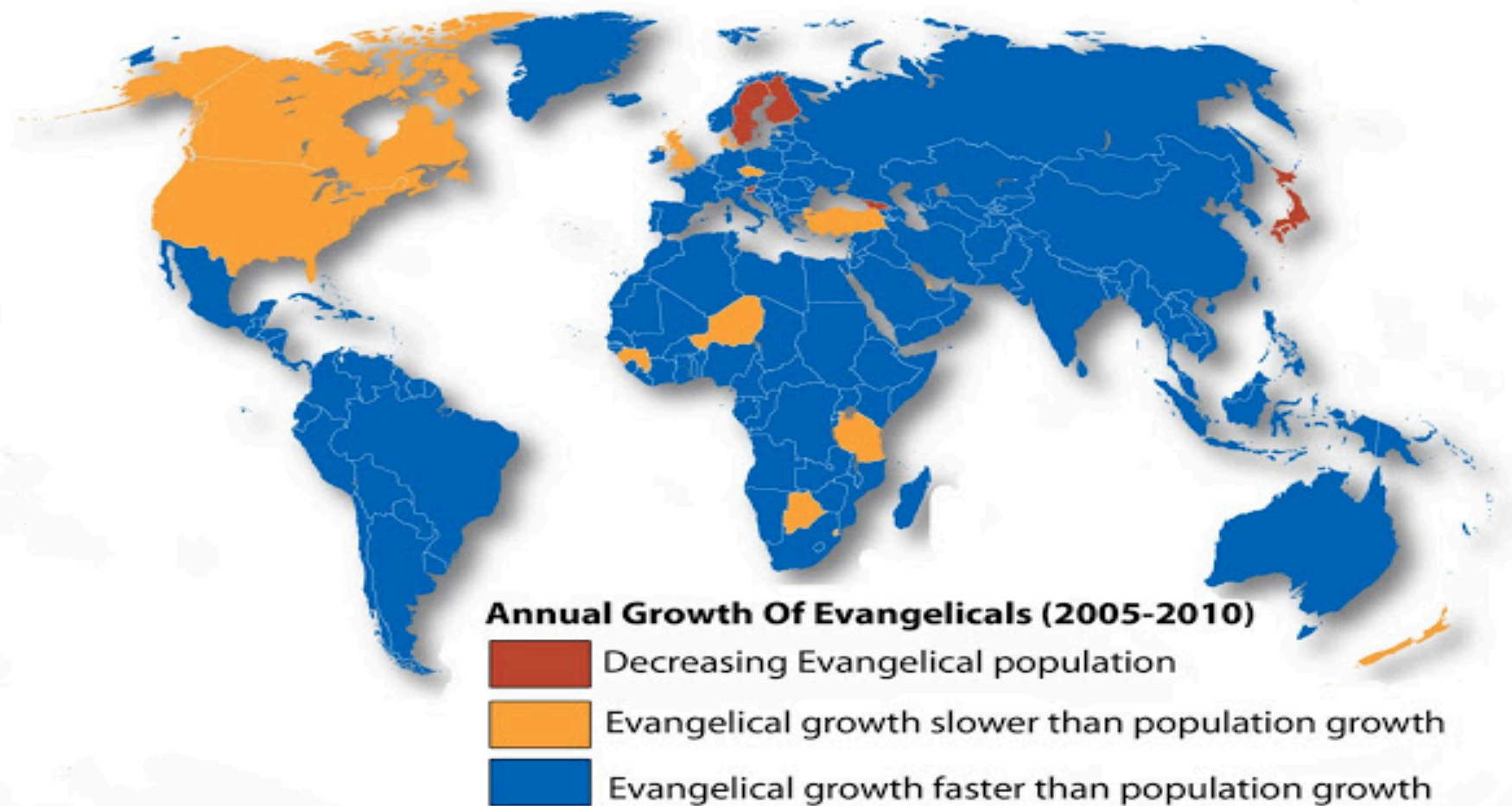
So what has God got to say to us ?

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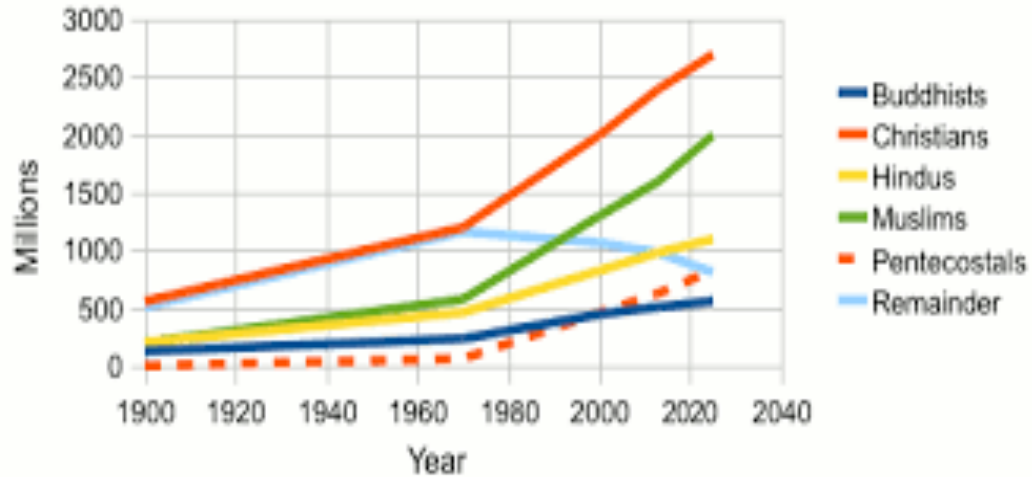
2 Cor 4:15

¹⁵ All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Growth Rate of Evangelical Christianity



Growth in world religions





So what has God got to say to us ?

2. Speak out your faith

2 Cor 4:13

¹³ It is written: “I believed; therefore I have spoken.”^[b] Since we have that same spirit of^[c] faith, we also believe and therefore speak,¹⁴ because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself.

So what has God got to say to us ?

2. Speak out your faith

Psalm 116

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.

² Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.

³ The cords of death entangled me,
the anguish of the grave came over me;
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.

⁴ Then I called on the name of the Lord:
“Lord, save me!”

So what has God got to say to us ?

3. Renew your spirit - daily

2 Cor 4:16

Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day

So what has God got to say to us ?

4. Keep your problems in perspective

2 Cor 4:17

¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all

So what has God got to say to us ?

5. Keep an eternal perspective

2 Cor 4:18

¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Jesus invite to you today

Give me your troubled heart

John 14:1-3

14 **“Do not let your hearts be troubled.** You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Elephant in the room

What if **God** doesn't come through ?

Habbakuk 3:17-19

V17 Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Saviour.

The Sovereign LORD is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
he enables me to tread on the heights.

How can we say "yes"

What should our response be ?

1. Cultivate an attitude of thanksgiving
2. Find a passage of scripture and speak it out daily
3. Determine in your heart to come to God daily for renewal
4. Get perspective on your problems
 - Talk to a friend
 - Take a walk
 - Come and get prayer
5. Live in the light of eternity

**Therefore we do not
lose heart**