

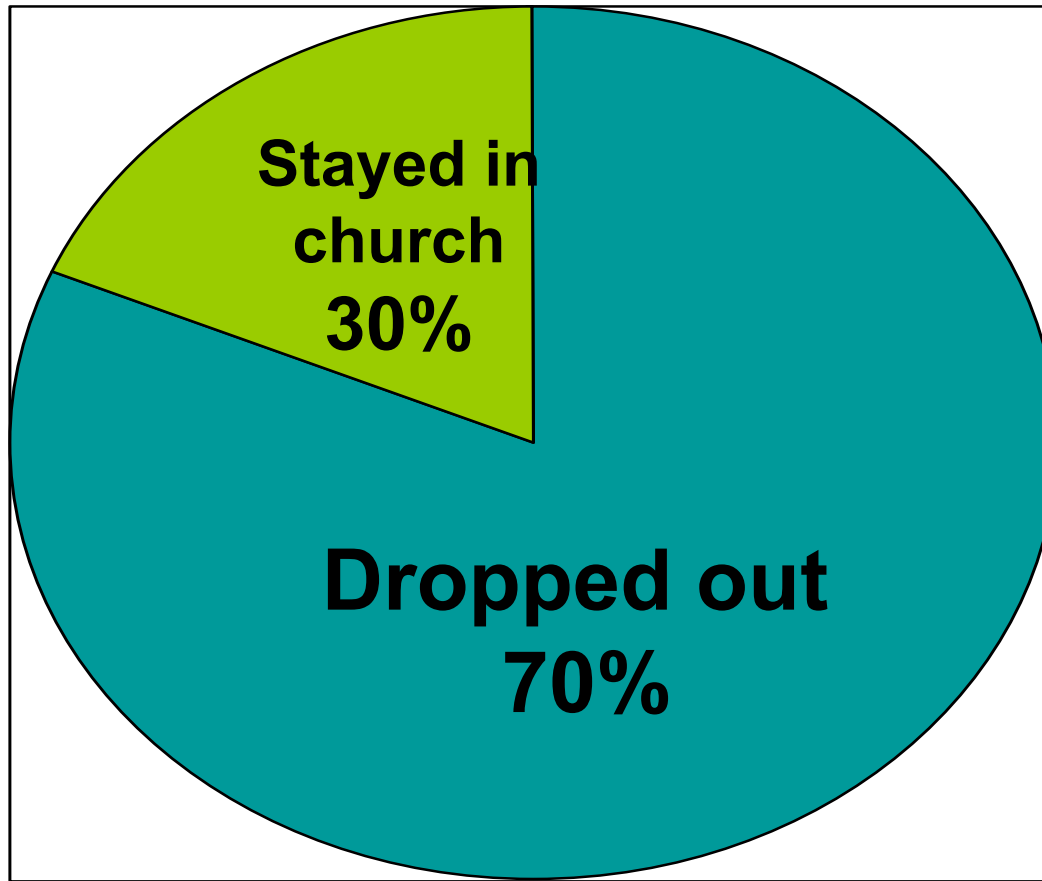
**ZOE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
OF WHITTIER**

“PARENT MEETING

February 8, 2009

**CONQUERING OUR CONCERNS
FOR OUR YOUTH**

**Source of research: Essential Church, (Reclaiming a Generation of Dropouts)
Authors Dr. Thom Rainer and Sam Rainer**



More than two-thirds of churchgoing Young Adults drop out between the ages of 18 and 22.

KEY INSIGHTS

THERE ARE REASONS
WHY YOUNG PEOPLE
DISCONNECT FROM
THE CHURCH...

Why did they leave?

Top Ten reasons Church Dropouts stopped attending Church...

1. Simply wanted a break from church.
2. Church members seemed judgmental or hypocritical.
3. Moved to college and stopped attending church.
4. Work responsibilities prevented me from attending.
5. Moved too far away from the church to continue attending.
6. Became too busy through still wanted to attend.
7. Didn't feel connected to the people in my church.
8. Disagreed with the church's stance on political or social issues.
9. Chose to spend more time with friends outside the church.
10. Was only going to church to please others.

Teenage (Younger than 18 years old) involvement in outwardly focused Ministries

(3) Areas of outward focus in the Church

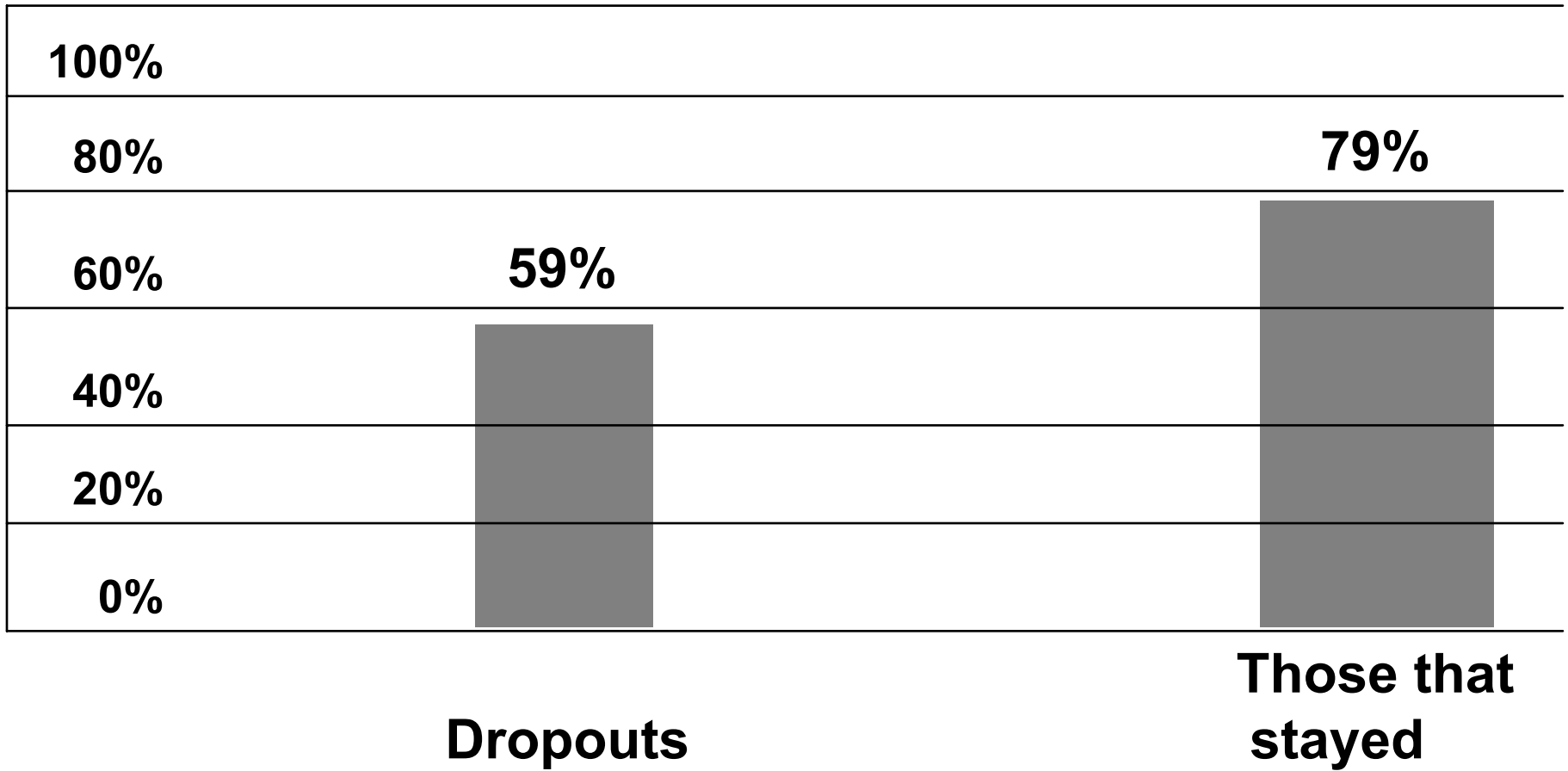
*Teens are best assimilated into the Church through their, service, giving and missions!

	Dropouts	Those who stay
Service projects	47%	61%
Consistently giving financially	37%	48%
Missions trips	25%	36%

KEY INSIGHTS

**KEEP OUR TEENS
ACTIVE...**

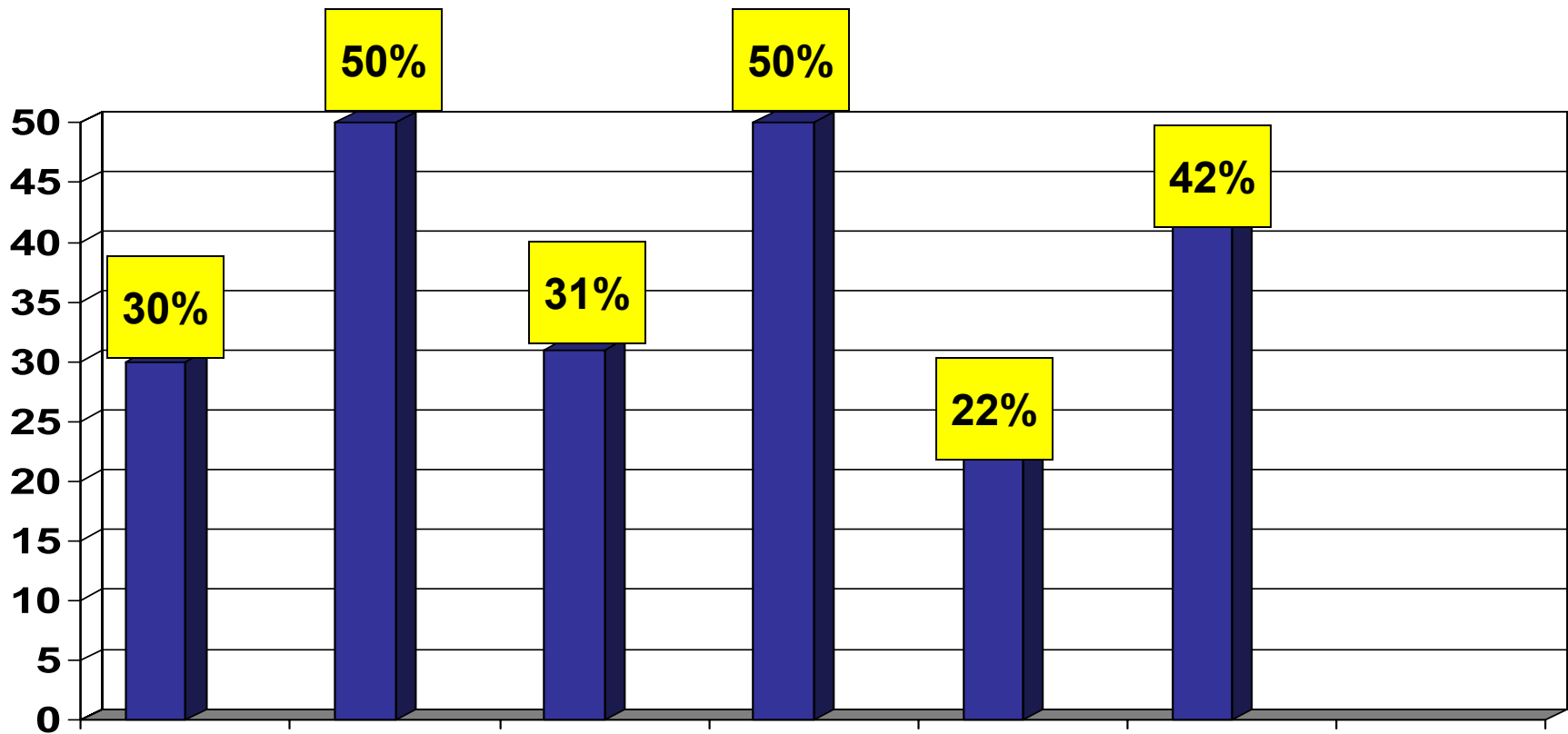
CONNECTED



***Teenagers who had parents that provided spiritual guidance.**

KEY INSIGHTS

PARENTS NEED TO PROVIDE
SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE AT
HOME



Dropout Regularly discussed spiritual matters	Stayed 50%	Dropout Actively served in the church	Stayed 50%	Dropout Prayed regularly together	Stayed 42%
--	----------------------	--	----------------------	--	----------------------

***Spiritual guidance within the family for those
<18 years old**

KEY INSIGHTS

**REGULARLY DISCUSS AND
ENGAGE TEEN IN SPIRITUAL
MATTERS AT HOME**

Description of parents at age 17

	Dropouts	Those who stay
My Parents were still married.	52%	70%
My Parents had the same religious preference.	49%	64%
My Parents had the same denominational preference.	40%	55%
My parents attended the same church.	36%	58%

KEY INSIGHTS

**PARENTAL UNITY ON
SPIRITUAL VALUES MATTER
MUCH TO YOUR TEENS**

Percent of 18 to 22 year olds who maintain these impressions about their church

	Those who stayed	Those who dropped out
Caring	74%	39%
Welcoming	71%	36%
Authentic	67%	30%
Inspirational	56%	20%
Insincere	19%	41%
Judgmental	24%	51%

KEY INSIGHTS

**A CHURCH CULTURE THAT
EMBRACES YOUNG PEOPLE
HELPS THEM STAY
CONNECTED**

Personal desires and activities related to church between the ages of 18 and 22

	Those who stayed	Those who dropped out
Strong belief system in place	83%	56%
Regular time spent in prayer	80%	44%
Bible guides everyday decisions	78%	30%
Regular time spent in reading the bible	63%	29%

KEY INSIGHTS

HELPING OUR YOUNG
PEOPLE ESTABLISH
PERSONAL SPIRITUAL
GROWTH BEHAVIORS LAYS
THE FOUNDATION FOR
HOLDING ONTO THEIR FAITH

SOLUTION

- KEEP TEENS INVOLVED.
- PARENTS LEAD IN SPIRITUAL MATTERS AT HOME.
- PARENTS ARE “ONE” ON SPIRITUAL VALUES.
- CHURCH CULTURE EMBRACES YOUNG PEOPLE.
- HELP YOUNG PEOPLE EMBRACE THEIR FAITH FOR THEMSELVES.