



LEADING SAINTS

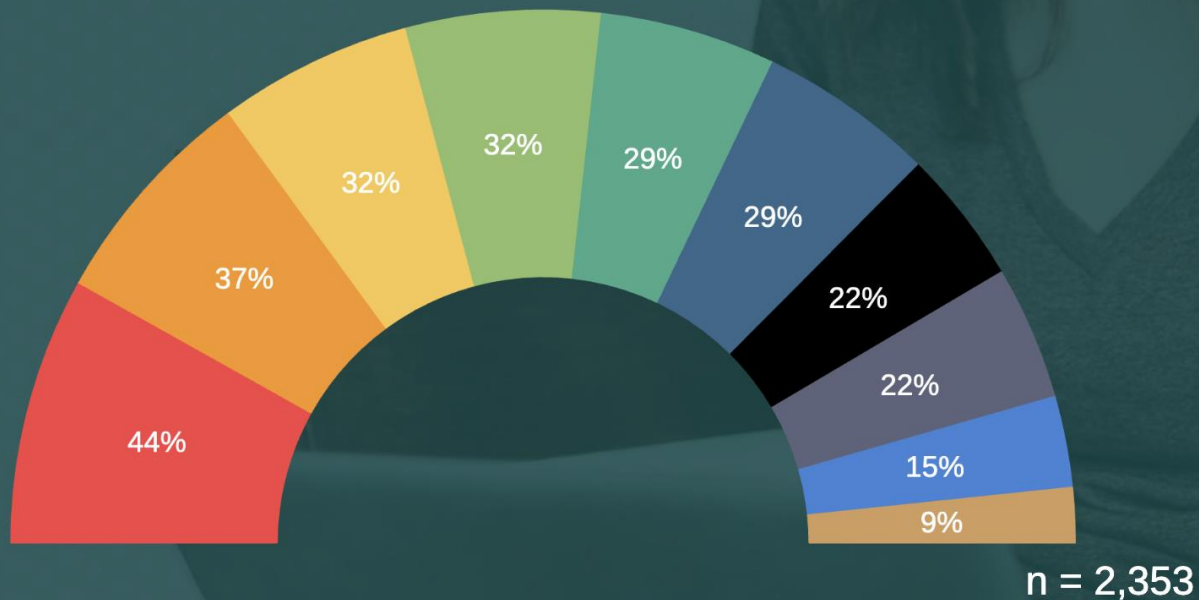
Tension Part I: Embracing Our Differences

PRESENTED TO LEADING SAINTS IN JULY OF 2025

What are the greatest weaknesses of the culture? 2

A.I. analysis of respondent's text entry answers—comment categories, frequency, and explanation.

Judgment, conformity, exclusivity, over-reliance on traditions, and fear can contribute to exclusion, inhibit healthy adaptation and growth, discourage critical thinking, and contribute to fear and perfectionism.



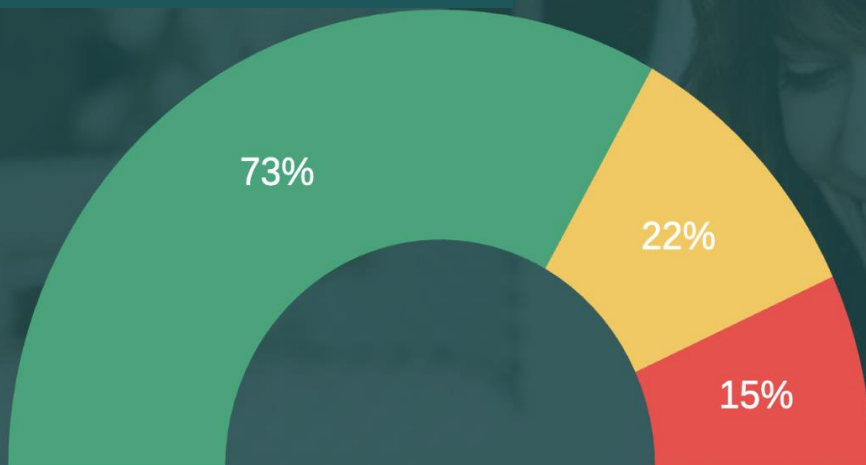
Judgment	Evaluating and criticizing others based on perceived differences, causing exclusion and lack of acceptance
Cultural Norms	Rigid expectations for beliefs and behaviors that can created barriers for those who are different
Group Think	The tendency to conform to the dominant viewpoint, leading to lack of diversity and critical thinking
Exclusivity	Being unwelcoming to those who don't fit our traditional mold, particularly socially and culturally
Inclusivity	The challenges of accepting individuals with different backgrounds, beliefs, and lifestyles
Tradition	Over-reliance on customs and practices that may not align with church teachings or member needs
Fear	Anxiety about not measuring up, which hinders real dialogue and understanding of differences
Perfectionism	Pressure to meet high standards which can lead to feelings of inadequacy and fear of judgment
Leadership	The effectiveness and accountability of leaders, including their ability to to guide and support members
Community	The need for greater outreach and active participation in the community (non-LDS)

How comfortable are you in the culture?



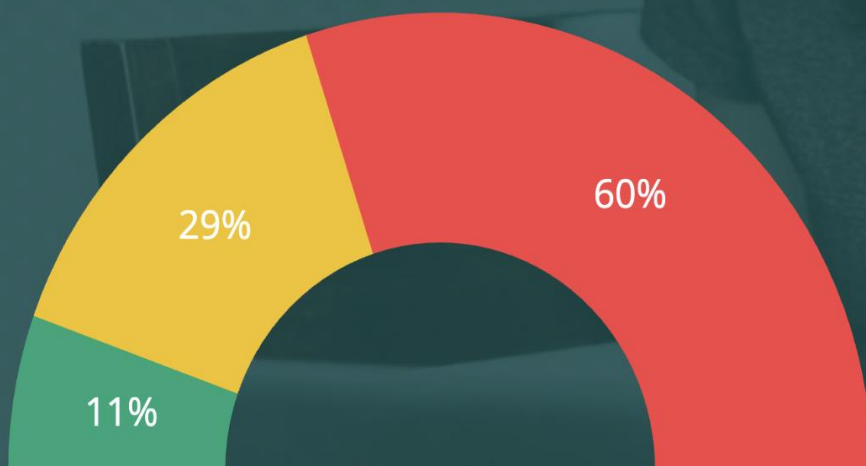
Multiple choice and A.I. summary of text entry answers to this open-ended question.

More Traditional Church Members

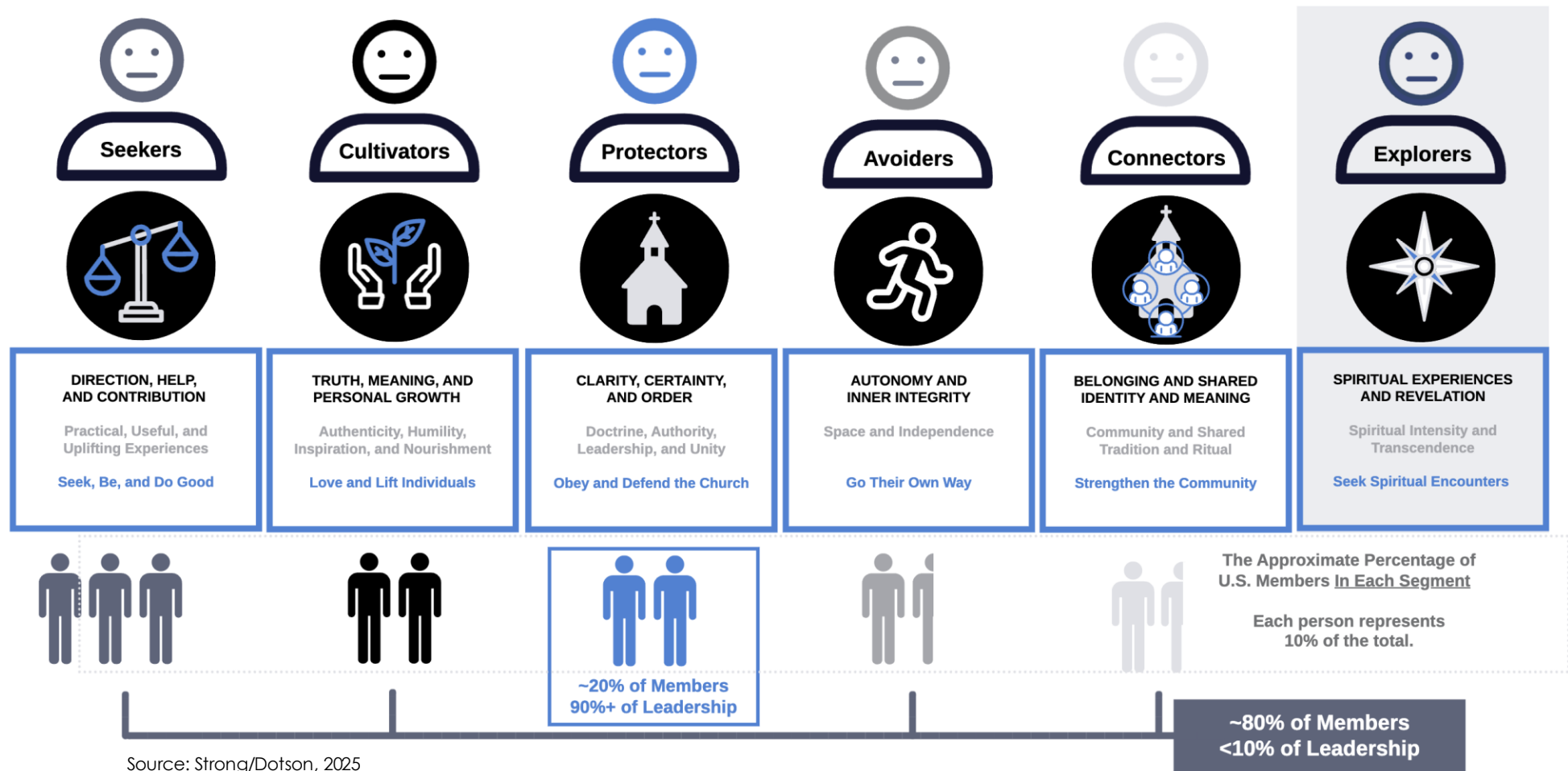


The more traditional members are very comfortable with Church culture—it is their culture and they generally feel very much at home in it. This is quite different than the general church population who are much less comfortable.

General Church Population



6 Belief Mindset Segments



Source: Strong/Dotson, 2025



1 Corinthians 12:14-27

(Origins, withdrawal, judgement, those on the margins, why it matters)

For the body is not one member, but many. And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: and those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: that there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

Culture Lessons

6



Believe	Value	Do/Say
We are different by divine design —unique strengths, experiences, and perspectives collectively lift the Body of Christ.	Differences > sameness —belonging learning, and growing matter more than defending and controlling.	Build villages, not fortresses —make room for belonging, complexity, and change for those who are unique.
Tension is not a problem but how we react can be —it is an invitation to listen, learn, affirm, and stretch.	Humility and faith > certitude —true disciples listen, include, and learn and do not assume they know.	Create schools, not bunkers —encourage supportive environment of inquiry, learning, and becoming, not just surviving.
The Spirit can regulate the National Man —fear leads to conformity and regression, faith to understanding and progress.	Transformation > sanctuary —Eternal life is growing in truth and light, not surviving in darkness.	Students, not soldiers —Spend less time defending and conforming and more time listening, learning, and teaching.
Gathering, not sifting —we are called to gather, not sort.	Weakness > perfection —there is a reason that the greatest among us are the least.	Yield and put off —when you feel fear, pause, take a breath and choose faith and the love, patience, and compassion w/it.

Copyright & Confidentiality Notice

© 2024 Jeff Strong & Dr. Jeff Dotson. All rights reserved.

This document contains proprietary and confidential information from research conducted by Jeff Strong and Dr. Jeff Dotson in 2023-2024. Unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or sharing of this content in any form is strictly prohibited without express written permission from the authors.

If you have received this presentation in error or without authorization, please delete it immediately and notify the authors.