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#### John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.<sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit, he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.<sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

(John 15:1-8)

Christians are "branches"

Our primary task is to stay connected to the vine.

Jesus the "true vine"

"apart from me you can do nothing" (nothing spiritually impactful) "Fruit" are results from our actions

Good fruit comes from God, when we are connected to the vine

#### Some implications...

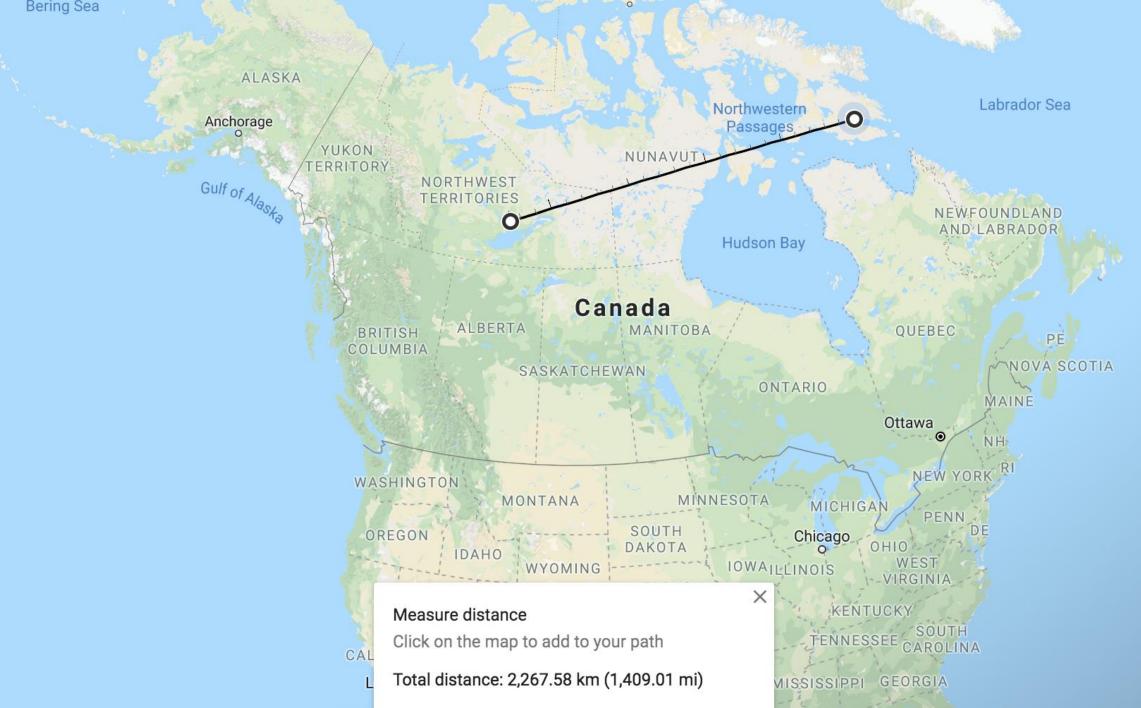
- Christians are "in Christ" stay connected, make your home with Jesus.
  - <u>How</u>? Prayer, scripture, worship, fellowship, Lord's Supper, loving one another
- Good spiritual results (good fruit) come only from God.
- God wants maximum fruit production. He both "cuts off" and "prunes" branches.
  - "cut off" branches refer to unbelievers who have had some proximity to Jesus but don't know him (eg: Judas)
  - "pruned" branches are being cut back to maximize fruit growth.

#### This passage has been central to my life and ministry.

I want to share what it has looked like for my family and I in recent years.

### YELLOWKNIFE, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, CANADA (pop. 19,569)

8



Puerto Rico

### IQALUIT, NUNAVUT, CANADA (pop. 7740)

### APEX, NUNAVUT

#### APEX, NUNAVUT



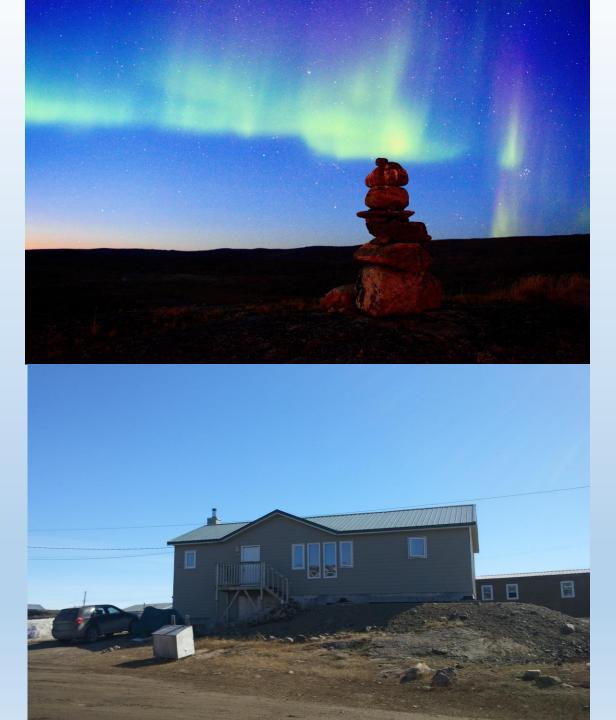






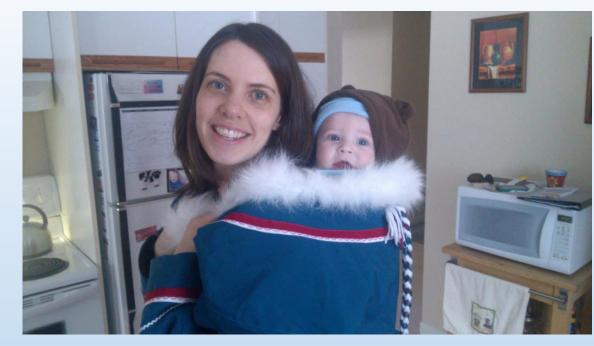


















#### ⊃⊂∩°مLanguage

#### In 2012, an Inuktitut translation of the Bible was completed.

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### Arthur Turner Training School

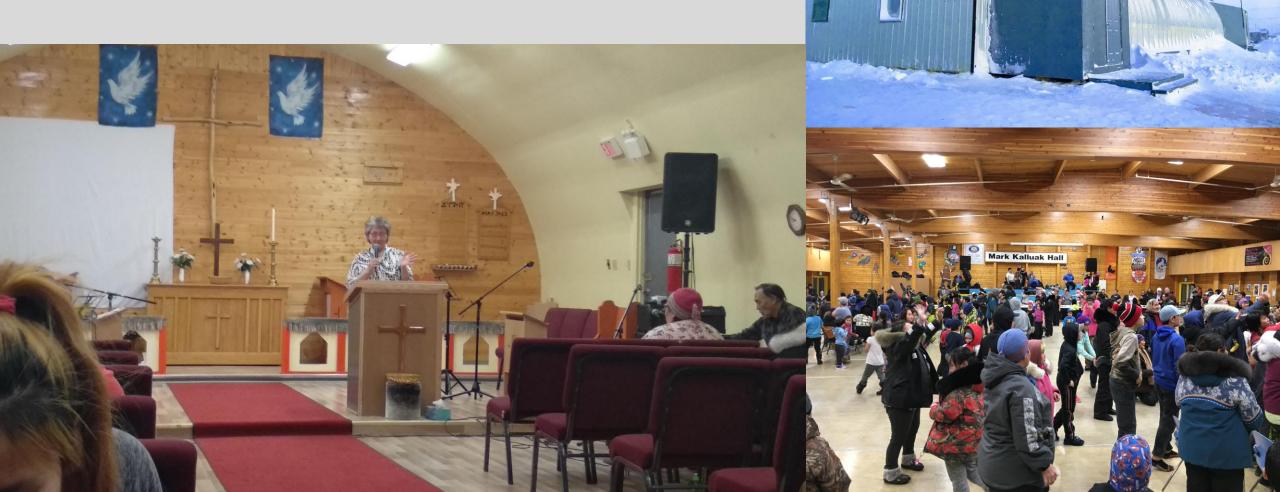
Open from 1970 to 2007, Reopened in 2016

#### Arthur Turner Training School



# Arthur Turner Training School

# Arviat, Nunavut



# Pond Inlet, Nunavut







# Arthur Turner Training School in 2025: over 40 students, 5 hubs, 4 instructors





### Then the Lord called us to something new... ...in Ottawa

#### A new ministry...

### Christian Embassy of Canada

#### The mission:

140

To inspire leaders with the person and values of Jesus



I exhort first of all that you make supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings for everyone, for kings and for all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceful life in all godliness and honesty, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <u>1 Timothy 2:1-4</u> Christian Embassy is part of **Power To Change (P2C)** Ministries, which is the Canadian branch of Cru (formerly Campus Crusade)

### **P2C Ministries**

Cultural Context	Ministries	
Students	<b>P2C</b> Students	
Athletes		
Family & Marriages		
Leaders	LEADER IMPACT	
Humanitarian Aid	GĂŤN	
Digital	Pigital Strategles	
Government		
Vulnerable	Connecting Streams	
Public Spaces		

### 40 Years of God's Faithfulness



<u>1975</u> First Christian Embassy founded in Washington, DC
<u>1984</u> Christian Embassy of Canada founded
<u>2011</u> ESL classes begin for diplomats and their families
<u>2012</u> Global Christian Embassy network established

**KEY DATES:** 



**Addis Ababa** Bern Geneva (UN) London Manila **New Delhi New York (UN)** Ottawa **Paris Pretoria** Washington DC A multi-faceted and strategic approach:

- Individual courtesy visits for all new Members of Parliament, Senators, Ambassadors and High Commissioners
- Distributing Bibles and Christian materials in many languages
- Hosting our own events to serve diplomats and parliamentarians
- Attending events in embassies and on Parliament Hill to build relationships

Why? To evangelize unbelievers and to encourage believers. <u>The gospel is central</u> <u>to all we do</u>. For this reason, we are nonpartisan.

Above all, we aim to stay connected to the true vine and leave the fruit up to God!



Senators

Leaders

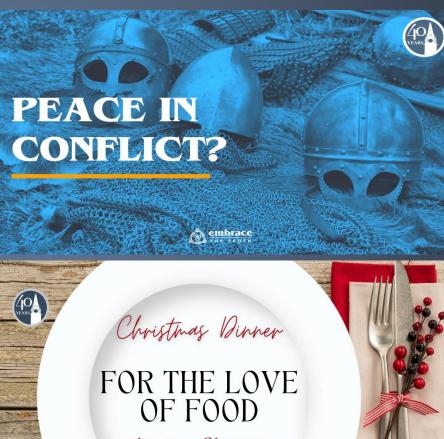
# God Opens Doors



#### **Canadian Political Landscape**

INSIGHTS ON THE LIBERAL LEADERSHIP CONTEST AND THE TRIGGERING OF AN ELECTION

LUCAS MALINOWSKI AND MIKE DONISON



pondering Christmas, abundance and scarcity



"The Christian Embassy provides me and other MPs with a needed personal focus and an outlet to serve. Their team helps me make connections with ambassadors as part of my government service. They also offer opportunities for me to grow in my relationship with God as I reach out to encourage leaders in Ottawa and overseas. I doubt the Christian Embassy is aware of the full extent of their positive impact."



**Member of Parliament** 



"I think every ambassador and high commissioner should connect with the Christian Embassy. I have found their team to be very helpful to my work as an ambassador for networking, because of the many people they know. With their help, I also better understand the Bible."

#### Ambassador to Canada



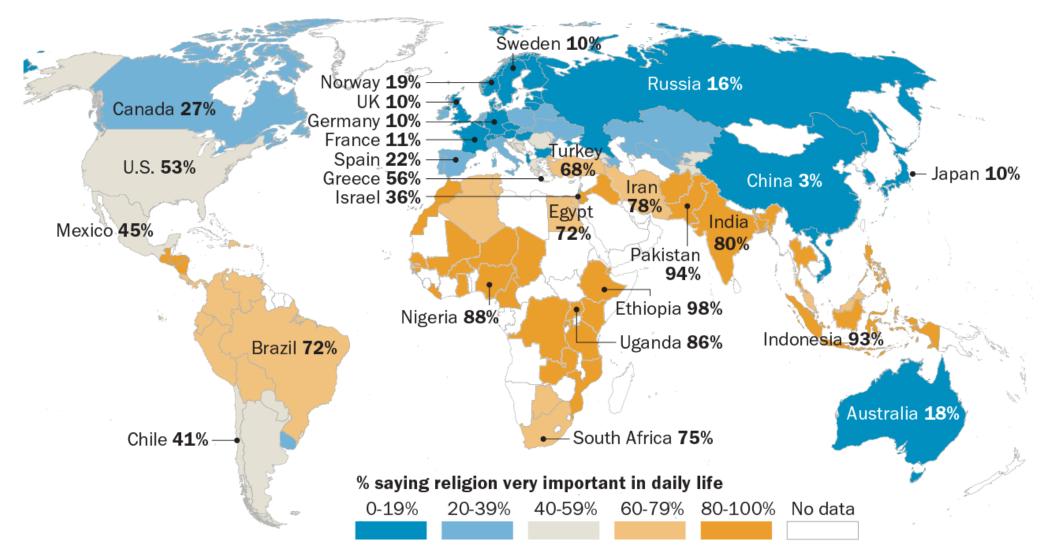
The unique opportunities for Christian witness at this cultural moment...

- Political division is high and rising
- People are anxious and uncertain about what's going on in the world
- Secularism cannot provide meaning for people's lives they are spiritually adrift
- The influence of Christianity is declining across the West (but rising in the global south)
- But...even in the West there are renewed signs of Christian spiritual awakening and openness to the gospel

The gospel has lot to say about what's happening in the world and offers the only satisfying and lasting answers for the problems we face.

#### Religion is very important to people in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, Latin America

% who say religion is very important in their lives



"The Age Gap in Religion Around the World"

#### PEW RESEARCH CENTER

What the Canadian public is saying...

44% say religion is hurtful to society
45% say religion encourages intolerance
54% say religion encourages superstitious thinking
64% say religion has a less important role compared to 20 years ago

Source: Pew Research Center

Most people have very limited understanding of the Bible and Christianity, and most have not heard the gospel presented in such a way that it sounds like good news. This is an opportunity!

# Prayer Requests



More fully supported Christian Embassy staff members

That God would lead the people we serve to a saving relationship with Jesus

That we could be a voice for Christian faith, hope and love amid political division, anxiety, conflict and other crises

# The Christian Embassy of Canada

"*He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.*"

Psalm 72:8

Thank you for praying.

