

For the Love of God

'FAITH & SOCIAL CAPITAL'

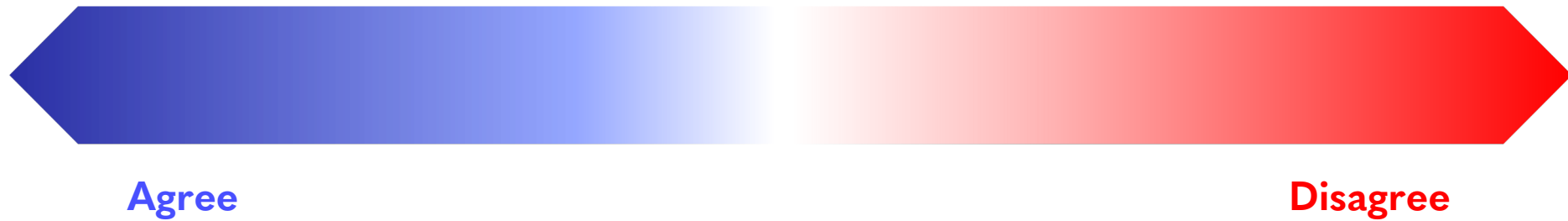
Why You Need Christian Neighbours

“What makes someone
a ‘good’ neighbour?”

Pineapple should never be found on Pizza



You can't call chess a sport



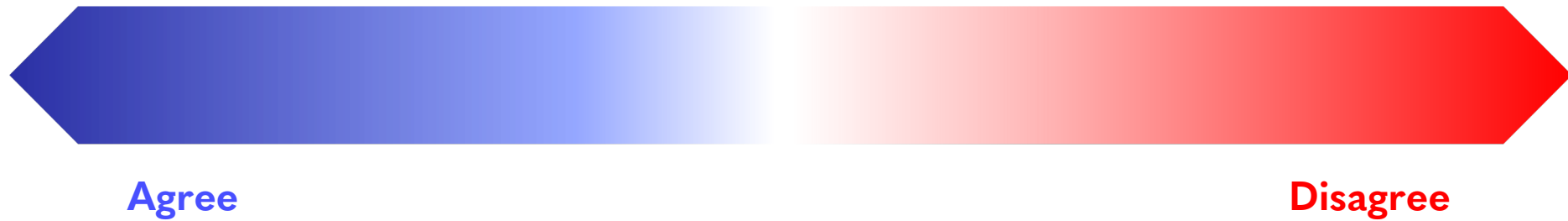
The moon landing never really happened



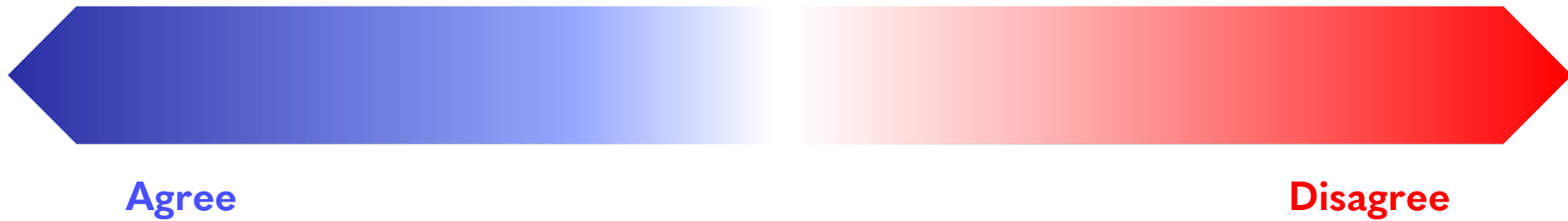
**Marvel movies are an
insult to our intelligence.**



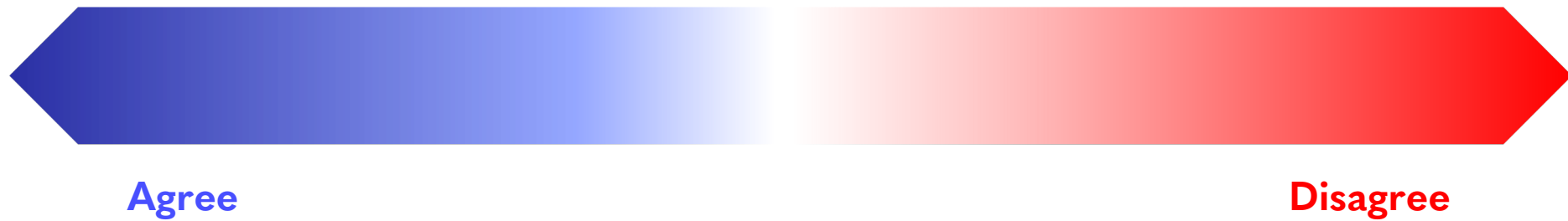
Churches are not very involved in my local community



**Religious people seem
to do more volunteer work
than non-religious people**



**It would be good to have a
Christian neighbour**



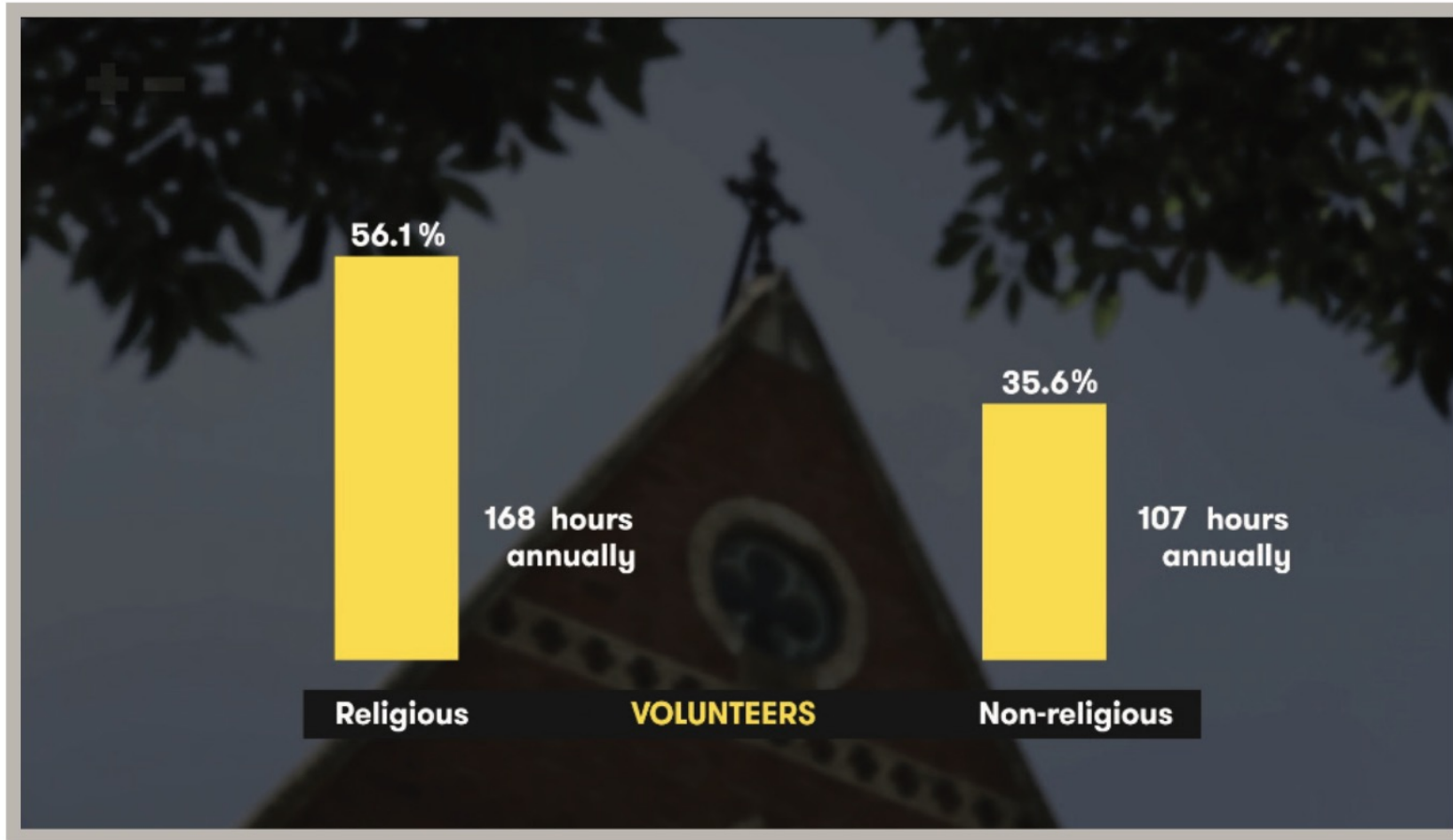




It is perfectly possible, I'm afraid, to go to a church and go "help", and have them go, "I'm sorry, we're busy with the flower arranging". But it doesn't always happen like that. It's observable that Christians are particularly drawn towards...applying love in small, individual, practical ways.

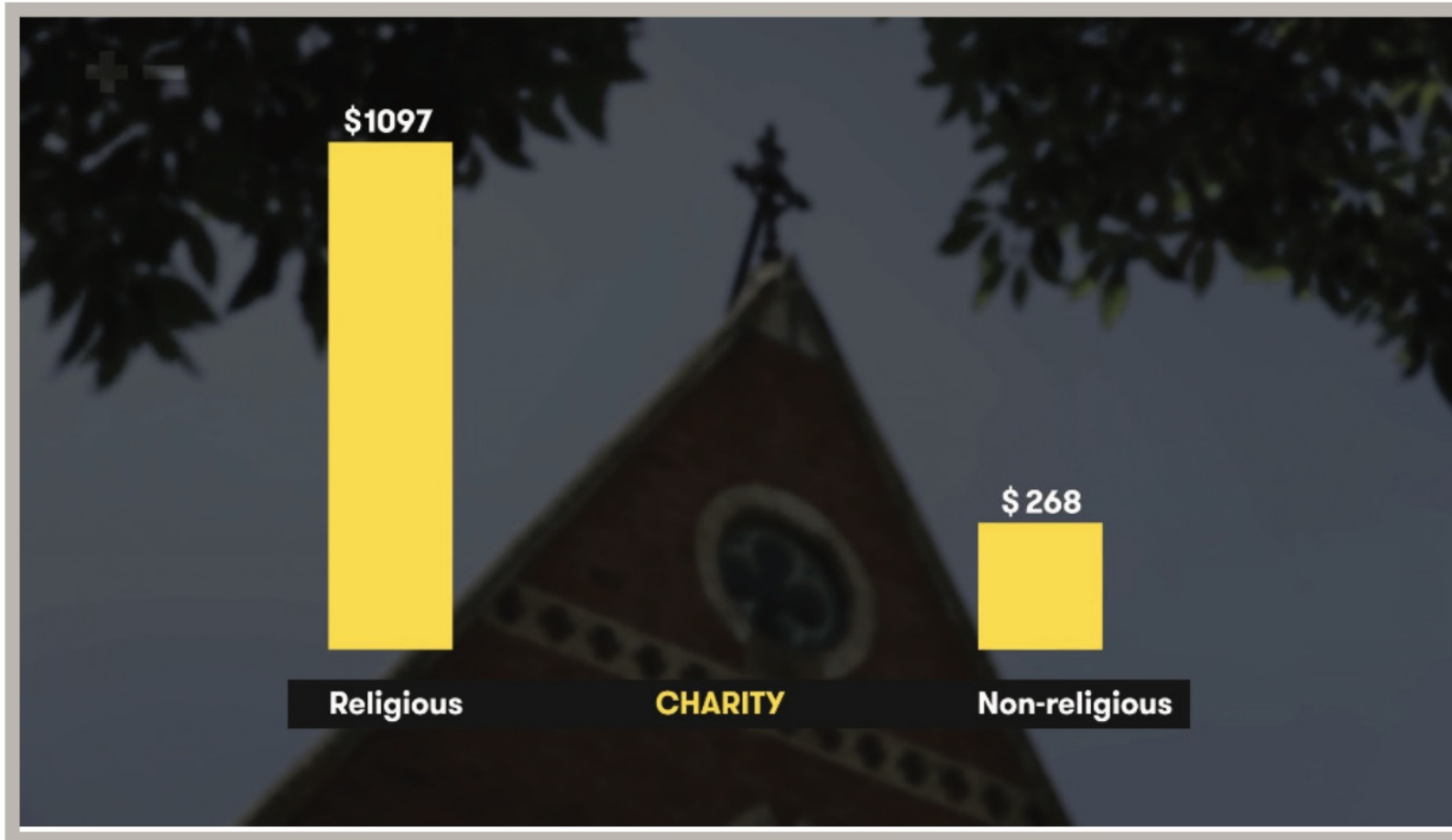


Volunteer rate and average annual hours volunteered



Nivison-Smith, I. and Lyons, M. (2006), "The relationship between religion and volunteering in Australia", Australian Journal on Volunteering, Vol. 11, No. 2, p.29.

Average annual amounts given by givers



Lyons, M. and Nivison-Smith, I. (2006), "Religion and Giving in Australia", Australian Journal of Social Issues, Vol. 41, No. 4, p.426.

³⁷ ‘Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?”

⁴⁰ ‘The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Dear friends, do you think you'll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? For instance, you come upon an old friend dressed in rags and half-starved and say, "Good morning, friend! Be clothed in Christ! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!" and walk off without providing so much as a coat or a cup of soup – where does that get you? Isn't it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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2. How should those who take this Bible passage seriously treat people in need?
3. How could these passages, and other Christian teachings about helping those in need, contribute to the common good?

'Social Capital'

CPX

**CENTRE
FOR
PUBLIC
CHRISTIANITY**

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