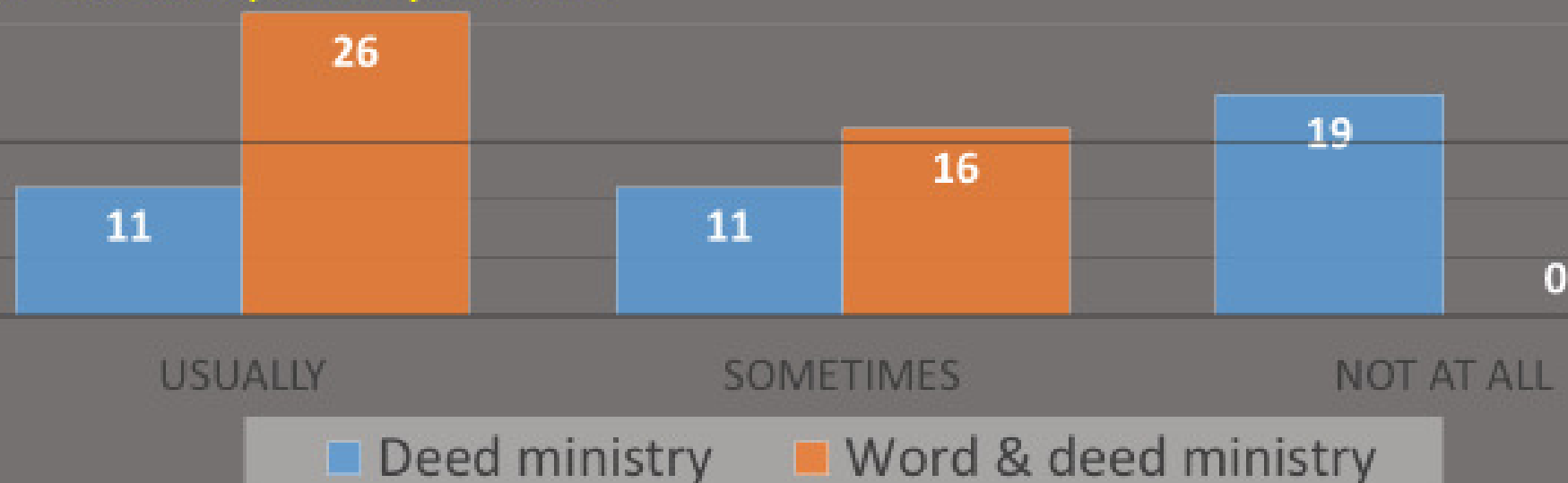


St. Francis of Assisi once said, "Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words." His words have impacted how Christian social service agencies do ministry. Many agencies only offer deed-ministry (food, lodging, clothes, counseling). Other agencies offer deed-ministry and word-ministry (prayer and spiritual guidance).

A SURVEY compared these two different ministry styles. Forty-one respondents served by these agencies compared which style of ministry caused them to think about God—to feel spiritually stirred.



*(Consideration: Many use St. Francis' quote like a guiding principle for bearing the Gospel. Acts-of-kindness are key results of God's transforming grace. However, evangelistically, doing acts-of-kindness consistently without spiritual discourse is largely ineffective, spiritually.)*