

FORMED IN THE CHURCH FUNCTIONING IN THE WORLD

20:20 VISION GROWTH IN INFLUENCE GOAL:

“By 2020 we every giant of influence represented in KTLCC working for transformation in at least one major area within that domain”

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. ¹⁸For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: ¹⁹whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame — who set their mind on earthly things. ²⁰For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

4:1 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved. NKJ

WE ARE CALLED TO FUNCTION IN THE WORLD

God’s purpose is to equip us to function as his witnesses in the world.

He is going to save the world and transform it.

He is not going to abandon what he created for his glory.

OUR HEAVENLY CITIZENSHIP IS FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD

Philippi was a Roman colony. They were citizens of Rome but lived in Philippi. The purpose of a Roman colony was not to be temporary dwelling place for Roman citizens until they returned to Rome. Their purpose was to defend of Roman Empire and spread of Roman culture and values. An expression of the kingdom of Rome elsewhere. The Emperor would come and quell a rebellion if necessary but not come to take his citizens home to Rome.

We are citizens of heaven. Our purpose is to bring the values, the culture and the message of heaven to the earth. God is going to transform the world. His glory is going to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

We are sent into the world – in it but not of it – in order to see the kingdom come on earth.

So we are being formed in the church to function in the world

STORY: The meeting place is meant to affect the market place – your gift is meant for the world.

Aimee Semple McPherson – And the making of modern Pentecostalism, 1890-1926, by Chas H. Barfoot, pages 324-327; Aimee Semple McPherson (1890 – 1944).

Rochester Crusade 1921

November 21, at a lunchtime meeting in Seneca Hotel, Aimee thanks 300 of her supporters and fundraisers. One of the speakers Malcom E. Gray, one of Aimee’s largest donors led the highly successful Rochester Can Company

which manufactured more than 100 different metal products. A Christian, keenly interested in his workers physical and spiritual welfare. Invited Aimee to address his workers “on the need of Christ in their lives so that they might become better citizens, have better homes and do better business.” The working classes were not really impacted by the Protestant churches – they worked from 7am to 6pm, 6 days a week.

Malcom Gray’s heart was touched by Aimee’s ministry and a month later sitting down for Christmas dinner with his family – he said he had decided to give them a five-day working week.

“Gray’s dramatic step did not go unnoticed in the industrial world. It received national attention, especially... the fact that productivity increased... Henry Ford visited Gray and the Rochester Can Company... he was so impressed that he applied to same idea at Ford Motor Company. Soon the five-day week swept industrial America and become the employment standard.” (Richard O. Reisem, *The Man Who Invented the Five Day Working Week*).

The short crusade in Rochester, she called “The most antagonistic city”, changed the face of industrial America and ultimately the whole western world. Her gift, exercised (apostolic & evangelistic) led to reformation in society.

The meeting place is meant to affect the market place – your gift is meant for the world.

Christians in the Market Place

- Christians are everywhere in the market place – where we spend most of our time.
- Christ is relevant to the whole of life – not just Sunday Christianity
- Christians are in
 - Politics
 - Media
 - Banking/finance
 - Education
 - Medicine
 - Sports
 - Business

Every Calling is a Holy Calling – Tyson Fury top boxer: “I pray for every opponent I fight! That it would be a good fight and that afterwards everyone would be safe and healthy.”

We are called to make a (kingdom) difference where we are

- Witnessing to the kingdom – demonstrating the rule of God in your life and community
- Building for the kingdom – you cannot build the kingdom, it is! but you can build for the kingdom. Everything that is founded on righteousness will endure in some way in the new heavens and earth.
- How?
 - a. By serving the needs of others – one rule for the whole of life: “I am among you as one who serves” and “By love serve one another” and “the greatest among you is the servant of all”. Motive is everything – die to self and give yourself in service of God and others
 - b. By exercising your gift in the market place:

1. APOSTLE – INITIATOR, innovator, pioneer, reformer, entrepreneur (extensive), big ideas, make things happen.
2. PROPHET – VISIONARY, values, principles
3. EVANGELIST – COMMUNICATOR, presenter, extends the influence, propagates
4. PASTOR – CARER, server, enabler, relational facilitator, equipper
5. TEACHER – INSTRUCTOR, trainer, model, showing how it all works, conceptual understanding and practical demonstration

ACTION

1. Every cell member choose a ‘giant of influence’ relevant to you
2. Pray for this domain
3. Link with the giants forums
4. Work together for change in your domain