

Marketplace Evangelism

Rev. Simon Tan

Matthew 28:19-20

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

馬太福音 28:19-20

所以你們要去、使萬民作我的門徒、奉父子聖靈的名、給他們施洗。〔或作給他們施洗歸於父子聖靈的名〕凡我所吩咐你們的、都教訓他們遵守我就常與你們同在、直到世界的末了。

The Grand Commission

Making individual disciples

Changing nations

- **Teaching** nations
- **Baptizing** nations

ENLARE YOUR HEART

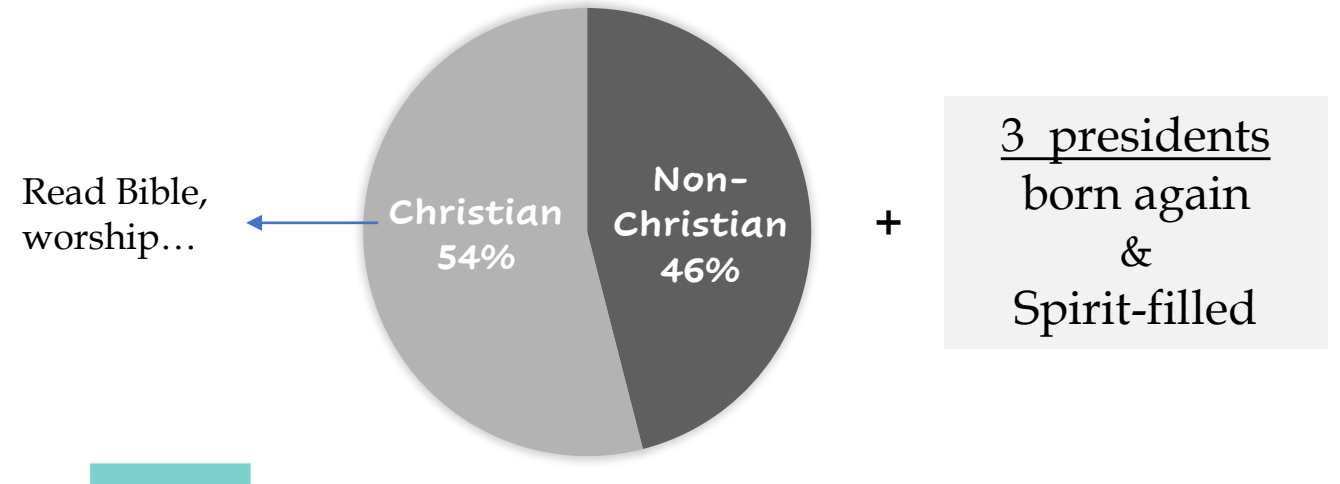
- ✘ Just think about The Great Commission in a very narrow sense
- ✘ Only About transforming the individual
- ✘ Enough for us just to lead people to Jesus
You can lead a lot of people to Christ, and still not open up a nation toward the Lord

Sharing by a Preacher from South America

Latin America has many nations with large numbers of Christians.

Guatemala

(Largest Number of Christian among these nations)



HOWEVER

The ranking of all the nations in Latin America

Guatemala: always near the **bottom**
(Drug problems, AIDS, kidnaping, violence)

HOW CAN THAT BE ???

The Church has been winning the lost 😊
But not impacting the nation ☹️

- Many of the Christians are **poor, uneducated, reclusive ...**
- They don't make any **significant difference** in society.

How do we impact **an** entire society?

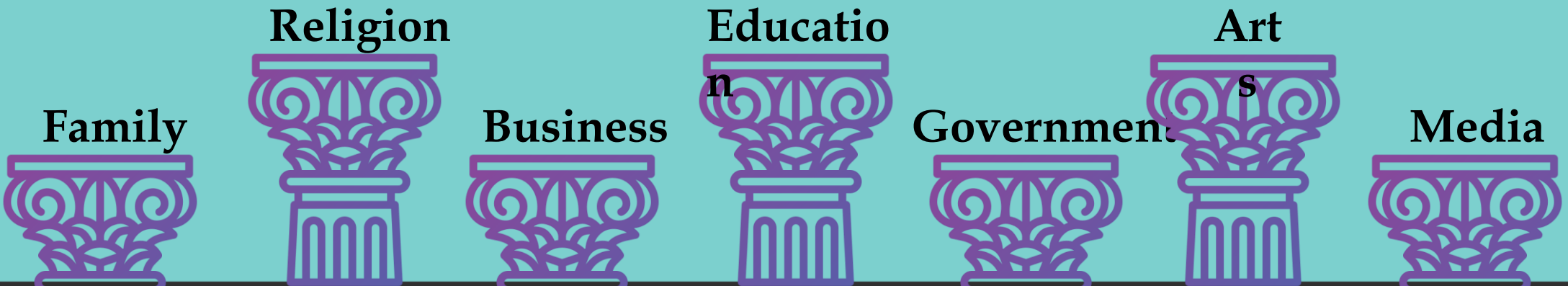
The 7 pillars of Society

You can never transform a city or nation if you don't engage all these pillars

These 5 pillars form what is essentially called the marketplace

Church touches here

Most churches stay far way from these areas



Question

Is it possible to change a whole society by changing the marketplace?



Politicians change

- economy
- rules of government

Anytime you touch the marketplace,
you impact the whole nation!

“

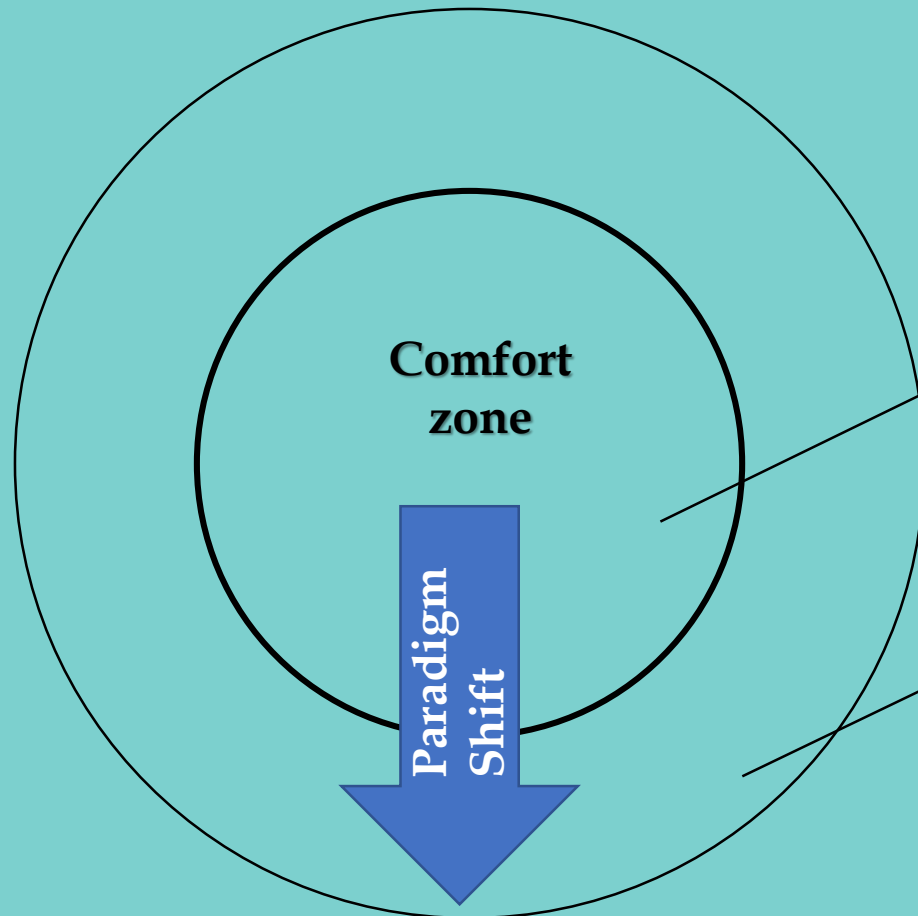
A Paradigm Shift in the Body of Christ Today

“Church in the Workplace”

- Our career, business, marketplace, kingdom of God
- Transformation of societies

Why people don't like paradigm shifts

Raise up laborers for the harvest field
in the marketplace



We like to go through life – day
after day, week after week
→ comfortable

We don't like criticism or opposition
→ uncomfortable

Where is the church today?

9 a.m. Sunday morning in the building over there!

The Church cannot be defined as a gathering within the 4 walls of a building



How are we going to impact the world if Church only exists 2 hours a week?

Jesus says,
“The **Kingdom of God** is within the believer”



In Marketplace: banks, hotels, hospitals, army camps, factories, restaurants, entertainment industry, schools, campuses

“

**God wants to
use you
wherever
you are**

People always have compassion for the poorest + neediest

CHURCHES



- There is often a biased notion that “God loves the poor and He despises the rich”

Not true: Jesus loves everybody! (Jn 3:16)

Bartimaeus & Zacchaeus

Luke 18

The Spirit of the Lord was upon Jesus to
preach the gospel to the **poor** and He loved
reaching out to the **poor**

When Jesus entered the big city of Jericho

Luke 19:1-2; 5-7, 9-10



Bartimaeus was **poor** and he is a **blind beggar**

The People were Happy: started to praise & glorify God



The people complained, murmured & were upset



Zacchaeus was one of the **wealthiest** men in town

"Zacchaeus is a corrupt sinner!"

But Bartimaeus is a sinner too!

The left side of the slide features several abstract geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in black and white. These shapes are layered and partially overlap each other, creating a dynamic, modern design element against the teal background.

The People had no problem believing that a blind beggar deserved a miracles

However

They **were not so sure** about a **wealthy tax collector** whom they **openly despised**.

“

God loves the rich
And wants to save
them too!

Luke 19: 9-10

To Jesus, both the poor in the villages + the rich in the **MARKETPLACE** need salvation.

And Jesus said to him,
“Today salvation has come to this **house**....”

↓
[Greek]: oikos
root word for ECONOMY or BUSINESS



God wants to bring Salvation to you, to your business,
then **use you to transform the marketplace of the city**
(just like what happened when Zacchaeus was saved)



Impacting one
man who was a
mover + shaker in
the marketplace



Jesus impacted the
economy of the
whole city

God wants to save:

1. Family
2. Religion

But He also wants to save:

3. Business
4. Education
5. Government
6. Arts
7. Culture Media

MARKETPLACE

Are You hearing me tonight?

You have to change the way you think
Renew your Mind

JESUS loves both the rich and poor!

- The poor orphans, elderly, social dropouts + people in the mission fields of India, China, Philippines, East Timor...
- The bankers, CEOs, Stockbrokers, lawyers, business people + celebrities in every major city.

Further explanation by Jesus's PARABLE

Luke 19:11 The Temple of God was in Jerusalem

- The people thought that since Jesus was going to the temple, a revival would come immediately



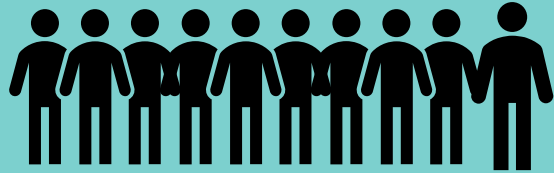
God needs
professionals
+ wealthy people like
Zacchaeus to
establish His
kingdom in cities all
over the world

But Kingdom of God
is not restricted to
the 4 walls of a temple



Bartimaeus is
going to heaven
but he was
powerless to
impact his
society

Luke 19:12-19



A nobleman – or a king – gave 10 servants 10 minas

In a rebellious world that has turned away from the king... the servants were **expected** to “**GAIN by trading.**”

- God expects you to excel in the marketplace ... Conducting business, making profit!
- And as you do that, God is going to cause you to gain – to increase in wealth!

Luke 19:12-19



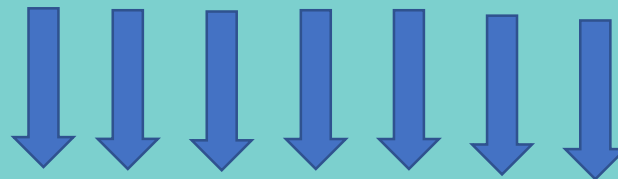
The servant who reported...

- Yield of 10 minas
→ authority over 10 cities.
- Yield of 5 minas
→ authority over 5 cities.



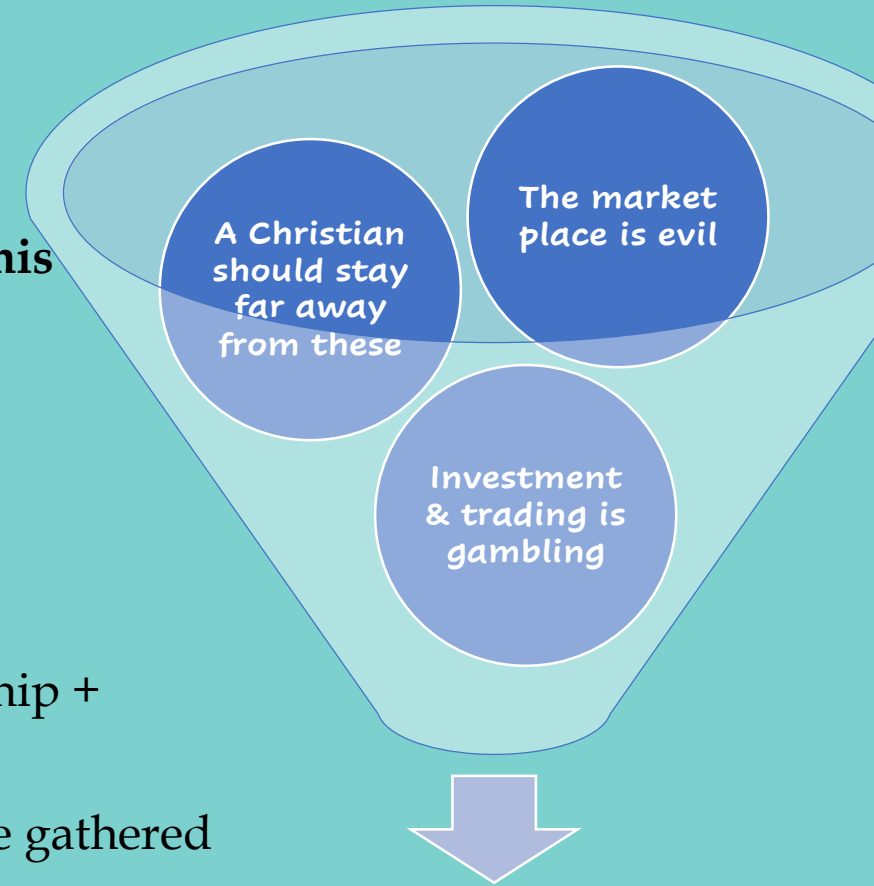
One Servant refused to invest his capitals

(X engage the marketplace)



He lost all authority for leadership + influence in any city.

All the enemies of the king were gathered + they were slain at His return.



Full of fear to take risk

3 Things to Learn Tonight

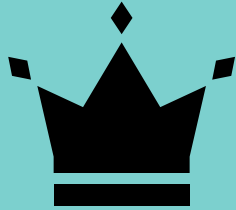
1. In a world that has revelled against the lordship of Christ, God still **EXPECTS** us to excel + prosper in our business + career.
2. To the **DEGREE** you excel + prosper in the marketplace, that is the degree you have authority over cities.
3. Before Jesus **RETURNS** to deal with His enemies, He wants His servants to have influence + leadership over cities!

“

You are the very important to the Kingdom of God

You are the Church of Jesus Christ from Monday to
Saturday in the marketplace

Even when there are “wolves” & enemies of the cross out there,
God expects you to do business + excel in your jobs!



As you become successful in your career...

- you will be given influence + authority over cities.
- You will become the salt + light of the world.

As you read the Bible, you will realize that Jesus & His disciples were
constantly impacting the marketplace.

Who was Jesus?

Jesus had **His background training** as a **carpenter**, a **builder**.

X use **deep theological jargons**.



He was from the marketplace

“My yoke is easy, my burden is light
→ marketplace builder talk



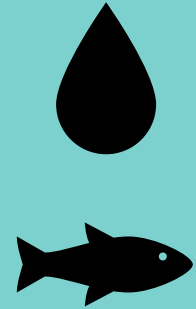
Jesus was very familiar with all marketplace operations

He talked about....

- **Construction of homes**
- **Wine-making, farming, ranching.**
- Parable of the workers in the vineyard – **Hiring + Management of staff.**
- Parable of the 2 sons – **Family-owned business.**
- Parable of the prodigal son – **Misuse of money + bankruptcy.**
- Parable of the unjust steward – **Advantage of leverage.**

Jesus had done most of the MIRACLES in the marketplace

- He turned water into wine at a wedding.
- When He helped Peter with the miracle catch at Peter's workplace



Jesus was a
friend
of the poor
and the rich

- He had no problem moving in the high society of the rich + famous
- In fact, many wealthy people supported Jesus's vision + project

What about the Disciples?

All 12 disciples were **professionals + businessmen** roped in from the marketplace.

Peter + Andrew	Fishermen
James + John	Running their father's food business
Matthew	Tax collector

→ perhaps a bookkeeper or accountant by training

At the Early Church, many of them whom God used were not from the religious establishment

- The Gospel writer Luke : medical doctor.
- John Mark came from a well-to-do family. He had servants in his home. (Acts says they used his home for prayer meetings!)
- World missions was birthed in the home of Cornelius, a senior army officer.
- The 1st European convert was Lydia.
 - * She was a wealthy wholesaler of expensive fabrics.
 - * She had homes in Philippi + Thyatira.
- Dorcas of Acts 9 was a lady who gave a lot of money to charity.
 - * She was a very successful clothing designer ... she would be like a present - day Donna Karen or Vivienne Tam.
 - * That is why when she was raised from the dead, everybody knew it ... because she was so famous in society.
- Aquila + Priscilla were businesspeople ... like Paul, they were tentmakers.
- Rom 16 talks of a church member by the name of Erastus – he was the city treasurer ➔ Accountant General.
- The Gospel of Luke was given to Theophilus (“A friend of God”)
 - ➔ someone of very high political + social standing.

The Early Church Reached out to the cities

Today we consider **full-time pastors, preachers & missionaries** as “servants of God.”

If you are a businessman or professional in the marketplace,

- Not expected to be radical + passionate for Jesus & His Church?
- Have to resign from your job + enter the ministry?

Full-time pastors + preachers are **NOT** the **only anointed people** in the Kingdom!

God is **NOT** expecting the world to be changed by **only 1%** of all Christians in His kingdom!

Every one of us is involved!

TRUTH: All are anointed! Every member is a powerful minister!

- Everyday, **99%** of the church is **interfacing** with the lost in the world.
- The Holy Spirit has put you there to bring His **presence + power** into the workplace.

The Early Church had a great start in Jerusalem (Acts 2)

Targed **big cities + commercial centers**

(all **7 cities** mentioned in Revelation in Bible days)

Why big cities? Pillars of influence

Ephesus was the 4th largest city in the world

- The center of
education, business, government, sports, arts + pop culture.

But when you reach out to the marketplace,
the religious establishment will attack you.

Models, celebrities, clubbers, bankers + stockbrokers	Religious Clerics
Like you	Hate you

A modern paraphrase of what Jesus said in the Gospels.
(Sinners, prostitutes, drunkards + tax collectors)

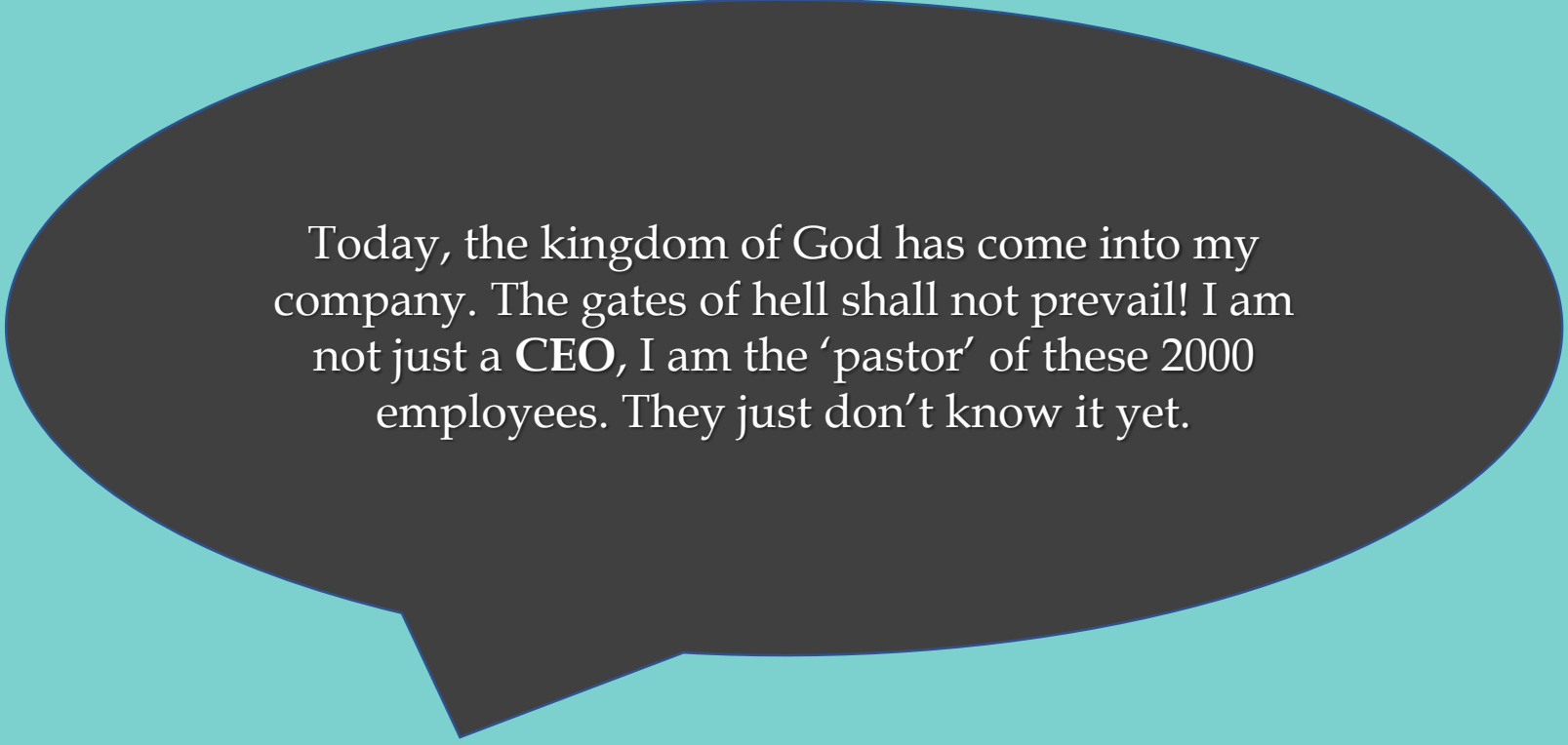
“

It is possible to be a very
highflying professional or
businessperson &
an anointed, lover of God's
house.

The left side of the slide features several abstract, geometric shapes in black and white, resembling stylized paper airplanes or folded paper, set against a teal background.

A Businessman in the Philippines

Problem in the inherited motel line: Prostitutions



Today, the kingdom of God has come into my company. The gates of hell shall not prevail! I am not just a CEO, I am the 'pastor' of these 2000 employees. They just don't know it yet.

Luke 10

befriend, bless, meet needs, then share the gospel

Before that happened, the boss began to **invest money** into new businesses

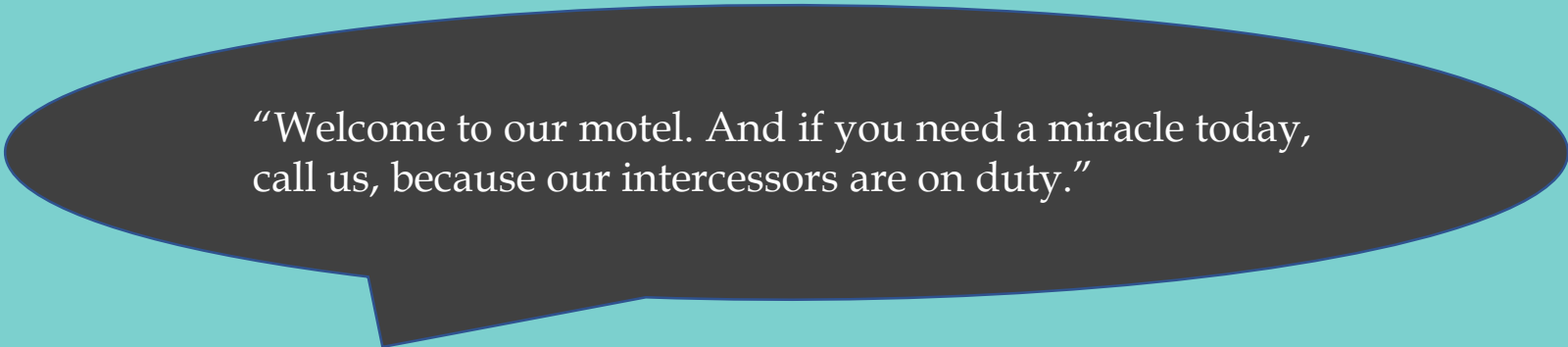
Cheap motels → → → Executive hotels



Prayer Chapel

He brought in church members to pray for every room on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

To declare the **lordship of Christ** over the hotel.



“Welcome to our motel. And if you need a miracle today, call us, because our intercessors are on duty.”

Receptionist

HARVEST TIME

Over 1.5 years, 10000 (including many prostitutes) gave their hearts to Jesus Christ !

Excelling in Business and Ministry

“You don’t have to be a poor, backward ‘servant of God’ who is totally out of touch with society, or a rich, successful but dishonest, immoral professional”

**Pastors & Churches
can be relevant**

**Businessmen & Professionals can
be on-fire
+ anointed in God**

Indonesia

(one of the major places of national transformation in our time)

- 4th biggest population in the world
- Christianity: grown to 16%

In Jakarta, Christians are everywhere!

- many of the big business people + decision-makers are born again, spirit-filled Christians
- 10000 ~ 20000 Churches in every city.
- Churches: building halls & huge stadiums.

Yet, in the early 1990s...
Christianity was on the retreat

- Anti-conversion laws
- 1000s of churches were getting burned
- Christians were killed

The New vision

“if we want to see Indonesia saved, we can’t just rely on a few full-time pastors + preachers! ”

**But if they don’t disciple the professionals
(who don’t listen to them),**

we can never change the marketplace and transform our society

- Discipling their members to be highly successful in their work
- being spiritual + powerfully anointed for ministry from Monday to Sunday

1997 Asian economic crisis & the fall of president Suharto in 1998

The President of a major banking conglomerate
- a multimillionaire in his own right

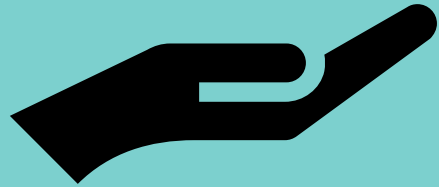
An architect

- owning a chain of highly successful private schools in Indonesia



These are all people who are spiritual,
anointed & have great attitudes

They are humble & have a real servant heart.



2 Countries in Asia

(where believers engage the marketplace of business, education, government, arts & media; have involved in the process, totally transformed their society)

- Indonesia
- South Korea

The left side of the slide features several abstract geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in white and dark grey, set against a teal background.

When they touch the upper echelons of the marketplace...

- They influence the **decision-makers of society**
- They can see
"God's kingdom come + God's will be done ... on earth as it is in heaven"

They have **brought the glory of God into their community** + have become a **blessing to the entire nation.**

- They see the promise of Joshua 1:3 that says:
"Every place that the sole of your foot will treat upon I have given you."

The Devil's Evil Plot

The devil's trick: to **disengage** the Church from the marketplace.

- To be operational only a few hours every week.
- To be out of touch with society

Satan has deceived most Christians into thinking:

- "Well, church is church, the world is the world!"
- I come here just for some peace therapy,
but I live in a 'real world' from Monday to Saturday
- I have no time for God or to expand His kingdom.

God has raised us up to change all that

We cannot change the world by
sitting comfortably within the 4
walls of a building.

We cannot change the world by
relying on only 1% of our
membership – the full-time
church workers.

Everyone of you realizes you are a Minister – anointed for the marketplace

You carry the presence + power of the Holy Spirit.

You are called to speak for the Lord in your marketplace

You are the Church of Jesus Christ (24/7) as you interface with the world of society

God wants you to excel in your jobs + become wealthy, so that you can speak words of wisdom to the rulers + “shapers” of society

You are not just “survivalists” from Monday to Saturday

God has placed you in the marketplace world to bring down the Kingdom here on earth

The left side of the slide features several abstract geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in black and white. These shapes are layered and partially cut off by the left edge of the frame, creating a dynamic, modern aesthetic. The background is a solid teal color.

Be a good worker of God, not just a good job-keeper

Job: a mean to earn money

Job → Ministry

when God leads you into the area and you take the voice of God, the anointing of God + the Bible principles into the workplace with you.

“

Don't just be a Christian only in name
or just a believer raising money to
pay your tithes + offerings.

**Be a Christian committed to the
TOTAL TRANSFORMATION
of your workplace.**

**Become leaders + model workers in the industry
you're in.**