

Releasing the Church's Power in the Workplace - Introduction

To appreciate our role as workplace ministers a biblical perspective of work is important. Our discourse on our role will be based on two critical God-given mandates for mankind as follows:

- **Creation Mandate** of Genesis 1-2 to subdue or rule the earth with God
- **Redemption Mandate** of Matthew 28 to reconcile people and the earth to God

Many of the teachings we have from the pulpit emphasise the Redemption Mandate that is focused on evangelism of people of every tongue. But we will like to throw light on the importance of the Creation Mandate in establishing the Kingdom of God on earth. Many Christians think that we are only called to become committed Christians; use words to evangelise others so that they do not go to hell; separate ourselves from the “world”; and sing “kumbaya” in our Christian “enclaves” till death comes. Like my Pastor said, this probably has led us to establish Christian schools, teams, hospitals, business groups, etc. to be far away from the “world” as possible. All these things are good and we do not in any way want to minimize the importance of this Redemptive Mandate. They are part of what we have been called to do not all we have been called to do. We would like Christians to consider the words of St. Francis of Assisi who stated “Preach the gospel always, if necessary use words” and what the Creation Mandate means today.

The Creation Mandate teaches that we work for God’s glory through our various callings both outside as well as inside local church ministry programs. This is not often discussed, taught or understood by many of us. Many Christians are led to believe that the work they do outside the church is something they have to do for financial income and has little significance in God’s purpose and plan for them on earth. Our position is that every work that God has committed into our hands represents our calling in line with God’s purpose and plan for our lives. Christians who do not accept their corporate work as a calling may not experience the fullness of joy at work and may give less than their best effort to their work, and sometimes even separate themselves from God while in the workplace.

Our discourse will cover the following:

- Theology of Work
- Current State of the Church
- Workplace Ministry – A Partnership
- Living Faith Out At Work
- Role of the Church in Elevating the Ministry of Workplace Believers

Send us your questions and comments on these topics. Stay tuned and have a blessed week.