

Theme :The Church & Community Development

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Defining the Concepts

The Concept of “Church”:

- **Universal Church**: all who believe in Jesus-Christ.
- **Local Church (Limited)** : can be understood as the location where believers gather to worship the Lord.
- **Restrictive Sense of the Term** : all who are transformed by Christ and living under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Defining the Concepts

The Notion of Development:

Development speaks to a change, an improvement, a progress, an evolution, etc. It is moving from situation A to situation B in such a way that the second situation (or position) is viewed as better than the first.

Defining the Concepts

The Notion of Development :

Three criteria are often used to help determine levels of development within a community.

- **The acquisition of new knowledge** (education, training, instruction, etc.).
- **A change in attitude** in other words the application of good practices in our daily lives.
- **Skills** this implies the mastery of a technique by the beneficiaries.

Is Development a Part of the Church's Mission

- ✚ **The theory of saving souls** states that the mission of the Church is to only save souls and without concern for the body. Everything is based on salvation of the soul.
- ✚ **The theory of social action (works)** states that the Church, because it comes from God, has as its mission to show God's goodness to everyone. The Church is therefore in place for its mission of charity.

Development and Relief

- * **Developement** is a process , it's a planning for future
- * **Relief** is a ponctual intervention , it's about helping people in need, it's about emergency

Is Development Part of the Church's Mission

- ✚ **The Holistic Theory:** Man is body spirit and soul. Salvation needs to take into account all **three** dimensions.

The Basis for the Church's Social Engagement

Scripture:

Old Testament

2 Kings 4:1-7

2 Kings 5:1-9

Ezechiel 34:16

Proverbs 3:3-4

Genesis 41:53-56

Esther 8:3

2 Samuel 9:1-13

Deut 15:11

Isaiah 58:7

Micah 6:8

New Testament

**Acts 6:1-7: Social organisation
of the church**

Acts 20:35

Luke 10:25-34: The Good
Samaritan

James 2:15-22

Matthew 18:5

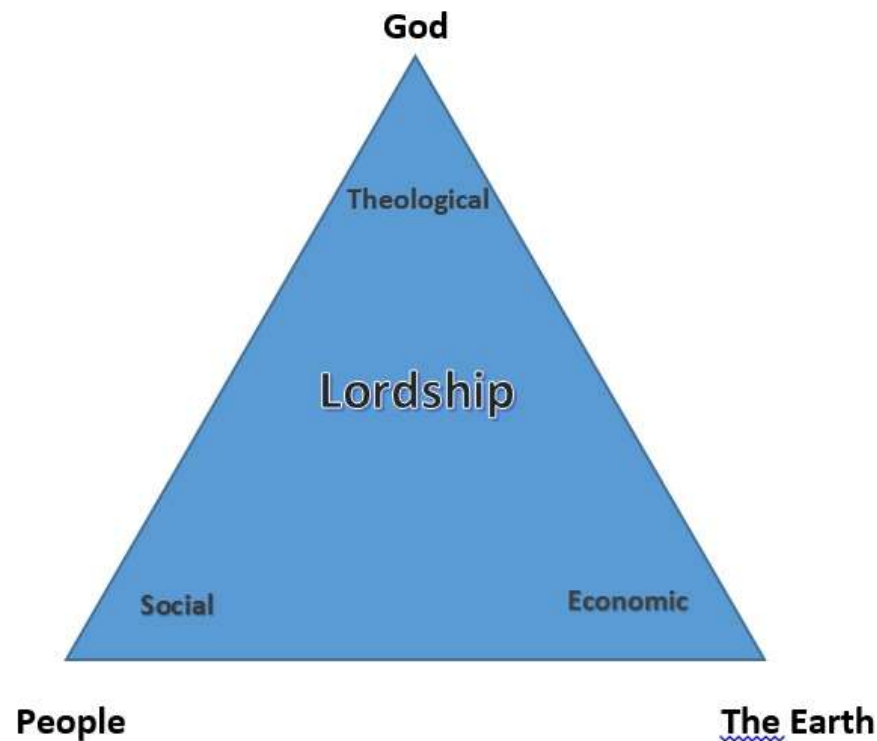
Matthew 25:14-30

Matthew 5:16

Mark 6:33-44

The Reason for the Church's Social Engagement

■ Obedience to the Great Commission



The Reason for the Church's Social Engagement

- Higher visibility for the Church
- Social engagement as a good tool for evangelism
- Out of respect for the Church
- The Church is living out Shalom!

CHALLENGES

- * Is the church spiritually ready?
- * Is the church financially ready ?
- * Does the church has the vision?
- * Project orientation and ownership (discrimination) ?
- * Does the church has qualified staff to do the work ?



TO GOD ONLY BE
THE GLORY