



TRANSFORMED WORKING LIFE

FROM CALLING TO MANIFESTING THE KINGDOM OF GOD



We need, as Christians, to stand in the gap for the Kingdom of God in our places of employment by being “prophetic prototypes” who create a “Transformed Working Life”! This means being salt and light in a time when uncertainty and confusion is accelerating all the more. As the people of God, we need to corporately seek God’s YES to relevant questions relating to current and future work in our country!

The Dream of a people...

...who in work and business make the Kingdom of God visible through their goals, strategies and plans becoming an outward manifestation of an inner walk of faith.

INNER WALK
OF FAITH

OUTER
MANIFESTATION
OF THE KINGDOM

Who is Your Employer?

The Bible says in Matthew 6:33, “Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.”

In foundation, work is not just a question of salary, in spite of the Scriptures saying that the worker is worthy of his pay. Work is about doing something for someone.

God is your provider and employer, regardless if you work in your own company or are employed by another company, government or organization, where you receive your salary.

When you seek God for what you are to work with, He leads you in a new relationship with Himself where He also provides for your needs.

Me, called by God?

Our basic premise is that we are all called to “serve God fulltime” in the context of our daily activities.

God calls us as individuals, but His intent is a “distinct” people, which He skillfully makes for a good work in all areas of life.

Noah, Daniel, Deborah are good examples of a commission from the Lord that was a prophetic commissioning within the context of their professional lives.

Upon Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem He rode on a donkey. The donkey symbolizes the working life. We believe that Jesus wants to use our employment and work in the same way in our day and age.

There are many indications that we stand before a new “Reformation”, based on a new understanding of the “work life theology”. Naturally, it would be wonderful to “come into your calling” and in this way reconcile creation and the evangelization mission through a life that is full of purpose, the joy of work, and liberty.

What is work?

God is the first who worked. He created the earth and mankind, and God saw that it was good. God took Adam and placed him in the Garden of Eden with the charge to cultivate and preserve it. Therefore, you could say that his calling task was to develop and steward creation. How does your “Garden of Eden” look?

Work can be defined as “doing something for someone”, i.e. serving. Work can also be described as systemized love.

Through the fall of sin - work was transformed into slavery, but through the redemptive work of Jesus, which covers everything, there is also a “redeemed” working life! (Col. 1:20). Thus, there is a restoration of work that is available through the redemption of Jesus.

The Bible proclaims in the letter of Hebrews that there is a “rest” that remains for the people of God. Therefore, it is God’s intent that we should “work in rest”. Possibly one could translate it like this; Instead of me doing my work my way, I can do His work in His way. In the Lord there is a “rest” even if we work hard.

Build your house and live on the Rock

“If the Lord doesn’t build the House, then the workers build in vain”, says Ps 127:1. Jesus urges us to not build on the sand but on the Rock – who is Christ. We need to excavate down through the sand, so that the Rock is the foundation to all we do. This includes all areas of life; education, work and family.

The foundation determines both the size of the house, appearance and function. In the same manner your motives are crucial to the fruit of your life. The Lord is ready to reconstruct, renovate, or if needed to even build brand new together with you!

God desires that your house building – your life – should be a visible manifestation of the Kingdom of God and that your stewardship should bear enduring fruit for the blessings of many.

Two ways to live and work

One can be dominated by the secular “natural” outlook for our existence, where life, the idea of business, your knowledge or your CV competes in a labor market, and is characterized by the struggle for position and success and the freedom it gives.

A “spiritual” understanding is based on a calling and a vision from God. In this way faith and obedience to Him become natural instruments for our professional stewardship and a manifestation of the Kingdom of God, characterized by the fruit of the Spirit.

Don’t forget that there are “two trees” in the garden of Eden!



The Kingdom of God at work

The Kingdom of God is a domain of God that is within you. It is a work of God. When the Kingdom's values and life impacts our actions, the fruit of the Spirit is made visible.

The Bible says that the Kingdom of God is neither food or drink and does not consist by words, but by righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit! There is an important principle – “when we listen, then God speaks” and “when we obey, God acts”!

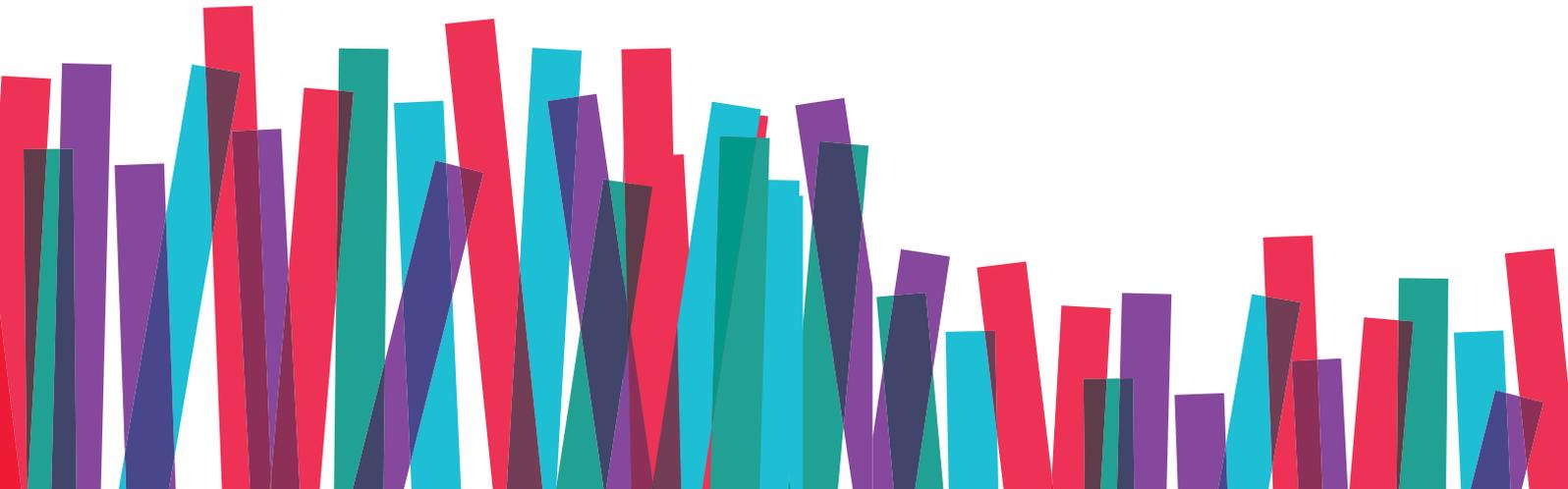
We are called to portray the Kingdom of God in everything we do through the power of the Holy Spirit. We need to uncloute our own strength and abilities, make ourselves free from the curse of the law, our performance anxiety, and our flesh with its lust and desire. We often struggle to BECOME WHAT WE DO instead of DOING WHAT WE ARE

You and I must come to the point where the Lord may take over our life and work.

Gal 2:20 says: “... I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.”

This opens the possibility of coming into the process that leads to a work in rest together with the Lord!

The World	The Kingdom of God
See to believe	Believe to see
The result is more important than the motive	Motives are more important than the result
Self-sufficient, independent and proud	Need others, dependent, humble
Self-absorbed	Bear one another's burden
Give = less for me	Give = to receive
Greatest is the one who earns most	Greatest is the one who serves most
Relying on my own strength	Trust in God
Elbow my way forward	Receive and walk in prepared deeds
I am strong	My strength in Him
Outward importance	Inward importance
I am what I DO identity	I do what I AM identity
I decide how things are	God has interpretation precedence
Stress, quick decisions	Peace – at the right time



God's YES to your area

Every industry and professional group has its roots and culture. The working life of today is characterized by many huge and hard questions, such as technical development through digitalization where jobs disappear and new ones created. It's also about existential questions and values as; what is life, what is death, what is a man, what is a woman or what is a family? These questions affect all places of employment internationally.

As Christians, we need to consider how it was intended in the beginning and what the Bible says regarding different things and types of work. Does there exist any God's YES to apply in my industry and my workplace? The answer is YES!

The Bible has much to say about different questions of work. It can be about leadership and personnel matters, stewardship (which is about more than just money), welfare and care, teaching, etc.

As examples of people and their working orientation we can name:

- Counselling/Consulting – Daniel
- Stewardship and Statesman – Joseph
- Ship Building – Noah
- Carpenters – Jesus and Joseph
- Sewing and Decorating – Besalel and Oholiab
- Doctor – Luke
- Law – Deborah
- Music – David, Asaph, Heman and Jedutun

Allow yourself to be inspired by the good role models of the Bible and leading figures.

It is relevant to prioritize seeking the YES of God, that is found in Jesus Christ, for your interests or areas of work, especially facing a future that will be characterized by very great confusion in a number of large and small issues in every workplace and in every country. We've known since Sunday School that "Jesus is the answer"... and that is correct! But by digging a little deeper within several areas we will even come to understand what the questions are, that we in the power of Jesus' redemption shall seek and find those answers through the Word of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

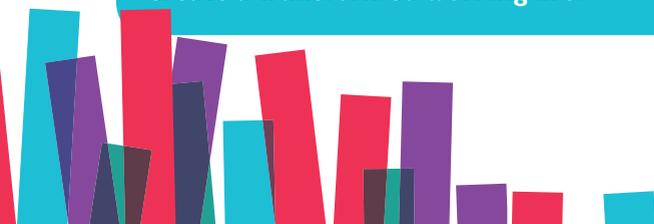
Interested?

Are you interested in digging deeper in Scripture regarding this and similar questions? If so, you are welcome to contact us, the International Christian Chamber of Commerce.

We are here for everyone interested in the questions briefly described in this pamphlet. **This is about a dream of a people, who together with the Lord create a transformed working life.**

It doesn't matter if you are a business owner or an employee, young or old, man or woman, work in the private or public sector. There is a God's YES for all of us in the places God has called us to serve Him – i.e. our Garden of Eden....

On the next page you will find a brief synopsis of the content of ICC's seminar called **"TRANSFORMED WORKING LIFE"**.



TRANSFORMED WORKING LIFE

We are now taking the development program, “Transformed Working Life”, to the next step through making the teaching accessible to churches, Christian groups within Companies and prayer groups.

With material in 4 different modules, with 10 foundational lessons built with over 30 years seeking to understand the Kingdom of God in the working life we want to serve all of the people of God. You can see several of the titles below.

Would you like to discuss the possibility of the development program “Transformed Working Life” in your church or your group? Contact the ICCC today!





“There is a huge difference between an entrepreneur, teacher, doctor, nurse, janitor or CEO who performs his job from a calling or one who is simply doing a job...”

For more information
please visit our website at www.iccc.net



ICCC in brief

ICCC is an international network of Christians in the market place,
represented in more than 70 nations.

The purpose and goal of ICCC's operation is serving people and churches to
inspire, equip and help Christians to serve God fulltime through their
calling and profession in the workplace and marketplace.

ICCC accomplishes this through a variety of local, national and
international gatherings, conferences and teaching series.

Via our website you may also learn how you may become a part of
and contribute to our work.

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