

Jesus in the Marketplace

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Faith, the Kingdom of God and the Seven Mountains of Influence

Where do we spend most of our time? What does He require of us in the marketplace? Does the marketplace have any value to the kingdom of God? Is work something we do until we retire and then go into full-time ministry? Is work our full-time ministry where we forcefully advance the kingdom of God? Where did Jesus encounter people?

The gospels and the Book of Acts show us the overwhelming appearances, ministries and interventions of Jesus were in the marketplace.

- The marketplace is where people work, build businesses or look for work.

Other spaces are homes, personal encounters and worship centers.

Jesus had 122 **appearances** in the marketplace, 10 not in the marketplace.

Jesus taught 45 **parables** in the marketplace, 7 not in the marketplace.

Jesus had 39 **divine interventions** in the marketplace, 1 not in the marketplace.

Jesus encountered people in the marketplace and in ministry space.

We encounter people in the marketplace, ministry space and cyberspace.

There are seven places of influence in our culture.

The seven areas of influence are: ***Art, Business, Congregations, Direct media, Education, Family and Government.***

NLT **Matthew 13:33** Jesus also used this illustration: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she

put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough.”

A servant leader in the marketplace is an influencer.

The woman is a productive domestic bread maker or an entrepreneur in the marketplace.

Like yeast in bread we influence everything around us.

The task of the church (the woman) is to develop influencers (yeast) to penetrate the marketplace (the dough).

I

Yeast is **inactive** when in the **package**.

Yeast by itself looks **helpless** and **insignificant**.

Yeast does its work when poured out into a different environment.

- Yeast works best when heat is applied.

II

Yeast is not **intimidated** by the size of the dough.

Yeast is not concerned about the size of the environment.

Yeast changes the whole makeup of the dough.

- Yeast raises everything around it.

The power to raise man up comes from without, however it works within.

The power is a hidden force; however, it is a living force.

III

Yeast never **bandons** the dough, it changes it.

Yeast can't be separated from the dough.

Once the influence of yeast starts it can never be stopped.

Yeast works quietly, secretly and thoroughly.

Nothing can stop the **advancement** of the yeast in the dough.

- Servant leaders influence everything around them.
- A few servant leaders can have great lasting influence.
- Servant leaders penetrate their environment.
- Nothing can stop the advancement of a servant leader.

The task of the church (the woman) is to develop influencers (yeast) to penetrate the marketplace (the dough) where lost people are.

IV

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, “**Go into all the world** and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name, they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

The world we are sent into is: demonic, has polluted language, serpents, deadly things and the sick.

The world is the word *Kosmos*, the **orderly** arrangement of things.

Kosmos refers to **systems** man creates.

There are seven areas of influence or systems: **Art, Business, Congregations, Direct media, Education, Family and Government.**

When all seven areas are healthy the culture, nation or world will be strong.

When several areas are in crisis the culture, nation or world will be weakened.

When the majority of the areas fail the culture, nation or world cannot stand.

Israel is a great case study.

NKJ **Ezekiel 37:11** Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the **whole house of Israel**. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'

NLT **Ezekiel 37:11** Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones represent **the people of Israel**. They are saying, 'We have become **old, dry bones--all hope is gone. Our nation is finished.**'

- "Old dry bones" are structure with no moisture of the Holy Spirit.
- "Hopelessness" is no expectation for favorable change.
- "Our nation is finished" is a statement of complete systems failure.

V

Jesus' solution to a failing culture, nation and world is servant leaders to take Jesus in the world.

- Let's take Jesus in the marketplace, ministry space and cyberspace.
- Let's do the great commission, to take Jesus into the world.
- Let's take Jesus into the areas of influence.

*Addition Study; **Acts 13 – 28** follow Paul's expansion to the nations, **Matthew 28:19** and his invasion of and his influence with the seven areas of influence **Mark 16:15**.*

Paul starts in the church and finishes influencing the seat of government.