



# DEMONSTRATING SONSHIP

In The Marketplace



## Dominion

“Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.” Genesis 1:28






## Sonship

“For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.” Romans 8:29

## The Marketplace

“And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: merchandise of gold and silver... and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men. **Revelation 18:11-13**

Every marketplace (formal and informal) has both physical and spiritual dimensions and God’s mandate to us in the marketplace is clear. Successfully dominating in the marketplace, is a function of governance based on identity not necessarily hierarchy. How we operate and what we demonstrate is closely tied to who we represent. So as representatives of Jesus must understand 5 key areas that will impact our execution of this mandate:

-  God’s agenda
-  Our assignment
-  Our empowerment
-  Our tribe
-  Our opposition

This series we are digging into these 5 areas, trusting that the Lord will equip us to impact the marketplace we function in as He desires in and bring Him glory.

## Day 1 God's Agenda

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him."  
Psalms 24:1

Everything is the Lord's and we are simply managers regarding how to disperse the gifting, skills, money, etc. we are given. This understanding that we are stewards of what the Lord has entrusted us with forces us to keep an eternal perspective on our decision-making and helps us always consider God's agenda ahead of any and everything else.

'Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'" Genesis 1:28

It has always been the Lord's agenda for His children to rule on earth because as carriers of His presence, everywhere the child of God shows up, His kingdom has shown up. While some of His children are assigned to the pulpit, the majority are intentionally planted in different industries, sectors, economies, nations so Jesus has representation in that sphere.

"... For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." I John 3:8

'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16

Jesus was very clear on His agenda: to destroy the works of Satan in whatever way it may have manifested (there is more detail on the specifics in Isaiah 61:1-3) and as His representatives we are also to establish the kingdom of God wherever we are present, shining His light. This light comes through the character we demonstrate, the solutions we bring to resolve challenges, the innovations we develop and above all, the love we walk in daily. Through what we partner with God to do in, with and through us, He draws people to who He is so they can also be part of His kingdom and walk in deeper depths with Him.

**Prayer:** Thank You Lord for shedding light on Your agenda and for giving me a role in Your eternal plan.

## Day 2

### Our Assignment

“You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed and placed and purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain and be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name [as My representative] He may give to you.” John 15:16 AMP

Jesus has an extremely high level of intentionality regarding our respective assignments, nothing about His plans for us is random. Jesus intentionally plants us in different industries, sectors, economies, nations so He has representation in that sphere. As we represent Him, we are both spiritually and naturally productive impacting others and ever expanding the sphere of His kingdom. Wherever a son/daughter of God shows up, His kingdom has shown up.

“I knew you before I formed you in your mother’s womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations.” Jeremiah 1:5

No one arrives on earth ‘empty’ with God trying to figure out what to do with the person. Rather we all have our appointments inbuilt into our spirit and our gifting, skillset etc. are all designed to align with our appointment, so we function effectively in our roles. However, our reality may not reflect what we’re supposed to be doing. This could be for a variety of reasons, including meeting the expectations of family, society, even our own idea of what we should be doing. None of these negate God’s plan and His own expectations of us. Which means we could be functioning in a particular field while God has made provision for us to function in another industry. While we may make money, get professional accolades and recognition, from heaven’s perspective we’re out of alignment with our assignment.

“Then I said, ‘Look, I have come to do your will, O God— as is written about me in the Scriptures.’ Hebrews 10:7

“Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God.” Romans 14:12

The first step to knowing if we’re in our right assignment is to ask the giver of the assignment to reveal what He’s written concerning us - it would be dangerous to assume. And where the Lord reveals to us that we’re not, to ask for mercy and the grace and strategy to get back on track. This is critical so we don’t spend valuable time pursuing what won’t count for us in eternity.

**Prayer:** Lord reveal to me what You’ve appointed me to do, where I am supposed to be planted in this season of my life and the fruit You’re looking for in my life.

### **Day 3**

#### **Our Empowerment**

“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4

When we engage in the marketplace, we do so as children of God, who are acting in the capacity of representatives of Jesus. Which means as carriers of His presence, we also have access to whatever supernatural empowerment Jesus had during His earthly ministry. This alone is more than enough to distinguish us in our place of assignment.

“The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.” Isaiah 11:2

“Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself” 1 Corinthians 6:19

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. John 16:13

When a believer shows up in the marketplace, such a person isn’t empty or disadvantaged as we are carriers of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us access to supernatural wisdom, understanding, direction, capacity, knowledge, all balanced with integrity because we fear the Lord. The Holy Spirit tells us what is to come so we can position ourselves, businesses, industries for the future. His presence in our lives reminds us of who we are and whose we are so we don’t get so overwhelmed trying to eke out a living that we lose sight of why we’re there in the first place.

“and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power” Ephesians 1:19

The pressures of life are real and for us to maximize the impact of our empowerment, we must consistently prioritize our relationship with the Lord, setting up the necessary systems that will keep us connected to Him. This way when the challenges show up, we can quickly tap into the rich reserve of His unlimited power, shining our light and drawing others to Him through the uniqueness of our response.

**Prayer:** Lord thank you that I am not without help. You have made the Holy Spirit and all He is available to me. I ask for grace to receive a fresh revelation daily of what this means as the equipment You have made available to me.

## **Day 4**

### **Our Tribe**

“And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.” Acts 4:23

”As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.“ Proverbs 27:17

Tribe: A group of persons with a common character, belief, occupation, or interest.

God didn't design us to walk this journey of life by ourselves. He recognizes the power of being closely connected to the right people be the times joyful or challenging. This is why He connects us to tribes: people assigned to help us stay motivated and on track in our walk with God, our assignment and living a fulfilled and productive life. As the days get darker, it becomes even more critical that we accurately discern and are closely connected to the right people.

”Then Daniel went home and told his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. He urged them to ask the God of heaven to show them his mercy by telling them the secret, so they would not be executed along with the other wise men of Babylon.“ Daniel 2:17-18

We read a lot about Daniel's exploits, but we shouldn't forgot that Daniel had his own 'tribe' - people of common belief, background and character in his friends. They were all young men of noble birth who were brought as slaves to Babylon and forced to assimilate their culture and identity. Yet regardless of the external pressures they were able to collectively take their stand for their faith, as they actively supported one another.

”Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you.... we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.” Daniel 3:16, 18

There is exponential power available to a tribe walking in line with God and in unity with one another as one will put 1000 to flight and two will put 10,000 to flight (Deut 32:30). We are much more powerful and impactful together than on our own. This is a principle we need to tap into for success in the marketplace otherwise it will be difficult to do all that needs to be done. When the Daniel and friends faced significant life-threatening situations with Nebuchadnezzar, they prayed together, stood together and brought God glory together. Throughout the Bible we see illustrations of people walking and working with a close knit group. Jesus had His close disciples, Moses had Joshua, Aaron and Hur, Paul always had a close group of people in each missionary journey. We also need our tribe.

**Prayer:** Lord reveal my tribe to me and connect me to the right people.

## Day 5

### Our Opposition

'The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.' John 10:10

Believers, we have an enemy called satan/devil whose sole objective is to rob us of all Jesus has for us. Satan doesn't work alone as he's supported by a system and structure of spiritual hierarchy (Eph 6:12) that is committed to this objective. It's important to surface this so we do not function as though we will go through life without facing any opposition. Even if we haven't done anything wrong, the enemy will still actively oppose us. In fact, it's usually when we are doing something right that the opposition is fiercest.

'For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries' I Corinthians 16:9

The enemy doesn't have unlimited resources and being systematic in nature he will tend to try and oppose us the most when we are about to step into a higher level. This is understandable as the deeper we go with God and the broader our sphere of influence, the more dangerous we become to his kingdom. This is why we are warned to always stay alert and probably more so during periods of intense spiritual exercise or seasons of transition.

'Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.' 1 Peter 5:8

'Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.' Ephesians 6:13

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have the power to overcome all the devices of the enemy. But we must also remain alert because even though the enemy is defeated, he does not fight fair. He will constantly test to see if we know who we are and what we have access to as God's children. So it's our responsibility to deepen our knowledge of our rights and responsibilities in Christ so we never give him a foothold in anything that concerns us.

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord, for the revelation of the victory we already have through Jesus, so that we can stop the enemy from taking advantage as we are not ignorant of his devices.

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