

# MOSAIC CULTURAL MINISTRY

reaching  
unreached Peoples  
from where you live

John Chung

Bless the Lord  
Oh my soul  
Oh my soul  
Worship His Holy name



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## [ session 7: Mission in Everyday Life: Here & Now ]

A Korean missionary to Cambodia returned to his commissioning church back home to give his report. When he finished, an elderly lady of the church approached him and said, “Only thing someone like me can do to help you is to pray for you.” The missionary replied,

“You make delicious kimchi; if you ever come to Cambodia and teach the people there how to make kimchi, it would open wonderful door for mission and ministry there.” She came to Cambodia as a member of a short-term mission team and taught people how to make kimchi, and one Cambodian family who learned started a restaurant business and lifted themselves out of the poverty. They also became active members of the church, which subsequently experienced growth and revival. The missionary would later recount this experience, saying, God used this elderly lady and her kimchi to accomplish things I as a missionary could not do for many years.

here &  
Now

If God can use such everyday life skill to transform the mission field in the duration of a short term foreign mission, imagine what God can do through our everyday lives in a long term relationship with our neighbors from other ethno-cultures?

### 1. People of God, living in the world

#### 1. Our everyday life is a mission field

Just as ministry of the Church is not accomplished by clergy alone, mission of God's people is not accomplished by missionaries alone. Most Christians are not called to be missionaries in the conventional sense; they live their lives not in faraway “mission field,” but here, as they work, earn their living, support their families, attend churches, spend time on hobbies and friends. Then, for those of us who live and work in the “marketplace” of the world, what more can we do as a Christian beyond earning an income to live, support our families, and giving financial support for missionaries abroad?

In *The Mission of God's People*, Christopher J. H. Wright describes the “mission of God's people in the public square” very broadly. He uses the term, “marketplace,” to refer to more than just the financial, economical institution, but to the entirety of the sphere in which production and creative endeavors of the world takes place—labor, trade, law, industry, agriculture, engineering, education, academics, medicine, mass media, politics, and even leisure, sports, and entertainment.

The word that the Bible—Old Testament—uses to refer to this “marketplace” in the broadest sense above, is the “gates.” The gate was the public square of cities and towns where people would meet together to carry on their business. This is where we, as participants of society, spend most of our time.

God is the Creator of all, and thus the Lord over the public sphere. Wright even adds that the prophet Amos surprised his listeners by declaring that God cares more of what happens at the city gates than in the sanctuary. (Amos 5:12-15)

John Stott also describes “diakonia” a term apostle Paul used often, this way:

In writing about the ministry of the state [in Rom. 13:4-6], Paul twice uses the very same word, which he has used elsewhere of the ministers of the church.... Diakonia is a generic term which can embrace a wide variety of ministries. Those who serve as legislators, civil servants, magistrates, police, social workers, or tax-collectors are just as much “ministers of God” as those who serve the church as pastors, teachers, evangelists, or administrators.

– John Stott, *The Message of Romans* –

If we are to apply this Pauline concept of “diakonia” to our lives, those of us who are in business, office, school, or home, are “ministers of God” as we seek to share the Gospel by befriending our neighbors, giving a helping hand to those in need, working, eating, and spending time together with those around us.

This “diakonia” ministry refers to us when we live our everyday lives in the public square not merely to earn our living, but to proclaim Jesus as the people of God. Thus, it is not only missionaries overseas who do mission—we, who share the love of Christ in our everyday lives in the workplace, school, and the neighborhood, are as apostle Paul declares, pastors, teachers, evangelists, and servants of God.

## 2. There is nothing in our lives that limit us from participating in Mosaic mission

Christopher Wright comments on 3 John 6, when John asks Gaius and his church to send itinerant Christian missionaries on their way in a manner worthy of God, noting that what John means here is more than a friendly farewell. The Greek term here is “propempe,” which appears elsewhere in the New Testament (Acts 15:3, 21:5; Acts 15:24; 1Corinthians 16:6, 10-11) and it means to prepare for that person everything one would need for the travel ahead, including food, money, guide for traveling, letter of introduction, and others.

If we are to take these words to apply to our mission here in our everyday life, many different things go into “preparing” and contributing to the work of mission. Everything we do for our new neighbors from other ethno-cultural communities, or ministry partners sharing the Gospel with them, from helping them find housing or employment, inviting them for meals or fellowship, guiding them settle in the new land, contribute to mission.

Moreover, John adds, “in a manner worthy of God,” implying that when preparing such things for mission work, do so as if you are preparing things for God—for Jesus Himself. Then, what limit would we place for things we would prepare for Jesus? We, as church and God's people, are called to prepare and equip our missionaries and mission partners abundantly—but, in Mosaic mission, we can do ministry that are not bound by the limits and framework of conventional mission.



Ministry beyond conventional mission



It is obviously deliberate that the work of the Twelve and the work of the Seven are both called diakonia ("ministry"). The Twelve were called to the diakonia of the word (Acts 6:4) or to pastoral ministry, while the Seven were called to the diakonia of the tables (Acts 6:2) or to social ministry. Neither ministry is inferior to the other. On the contrary, both are Christian ministries (ways of serving God). Both require Spirit-filled people to exercise them. And both can be full-time Christian ministries. The only difference between them is that they are different! ....there is a wide diversity of gifts, callings and ministries, and we have to discover our gifts and help others discover theirs.

– John Stott, in *The Living Church* –

That is why in Mosaic mission, evangelism and mission include many things. It includes to sharing the Gospel through Bible studies, sermons, visitations and discussion. But, it also includes giving food to the hungry, befriending our neighbors, having a meal, or tea or coffee with them, helping them find housing or rent, helping them find a church where they may worship, help in cleaning their neighborhood, looking after their children, giving scholarships and supporting their tuition, teaching them language or cooking—all of these things and more are ministry and mission, requiring people filled with wisdom and the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:3).

### 3. People in the world encounter us before they encounter Jesus

In *Favourite Psalms*, John Stott remarks how wondrous would it be if the blessing of the Psalmist, “may God be gracious to us and bless us” (Psalm 67:1) or Aaron (Numbers 6:24–26) is realized today before our eyes—that God would greatly bless and keep the people we meet, and make His face shine upon them. He asks if the peoples of the world would not encounter God, and the evidence for His acts and grace, if such were to happen, bringing them into faith in His salvation.

He then writes that the lives of Christians are what the peoples of the world encounter – glory of God must shine through us. We, as Christians, claim that Jesus Christ is our Savior and Lord. The peoples of the world will then ask, “if so, what effect does Jesus have on Christians?” Where is your God? That is their challenge. The greatest obstacle and difficulty for world evangelism today is that the Church often do not demonstrate the saving power and reality of God in their lives, their homes, and their ministry. Stott thus concludes that we ought to pray for blessing of God, not to monopolize it, but that God's blessing, power, character and love, is demonstrated through our lives, so that the peoples of the world will see it and are brought to Him.

Wright gives this example: when a husband compliments his wife's beautiful dress, what he is truly complimenting is his wife. Likewise, when the people of the world praise the way we live our lives due to our faith in Jesus, what they are truly praising is God who created us and Jesus who is our Lord—that is how our lives lead the people of the world to God.

That is why the primary mission we are called to is to live in a way that will make people who see us interested in our lives and God our lives glorify and worship. Let me emphasize; what leads them to God is our lives.

**Matthew 5:14-16: “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”**

## 2. HERE & NOW MISSION

### 1. What does it mean to live missional lives for Mosaic Cultural Mission?

- To discern God's plan in bringing people from different nations and cultures all over the world to be our neighbors.
- To intentionally form relationship with our new neighbors from other cultures and represent Jesus in our daily lives with them..
- To consistently look after the needs of our neighbors from other cultures, working with our ministry partners.
- To invite and include Christians from ethnocultural communities unreached by the Gospel, as members of our spiritual and faith community in Christ.

## 2. The goals of Mosaic Cultural Mission

### Planting Churches

- Research unreached ethnocultural people groups (See Session 1 Resources)
- Decide on the specific ethnocultural community in which to build a church, and find and partner with sincere Christians and leaders in that community.
- Share the vision to build a church in the language and culture of the community with those in partnership.
- Through networking, form partnership between the Christians in the ethnocultural community and sponsoring churches.
- Support and sponsor the planted church until it matures.

### Education and Training

- ALPHA program training
- Discipleship school and training
- Leadership training - adults, youths
- Joint Retreats for youths, and ministry leaders of CMCA churches
- Training and mentorship program for Mosaic Ministry leaders and missionaries
- Mosaic Ministry seminars and forums



At the close of the Mosaic Ministry leaders retreat



## Commissioning missionaries

Share the mission's vision below with missionary partners at the start of their ministry

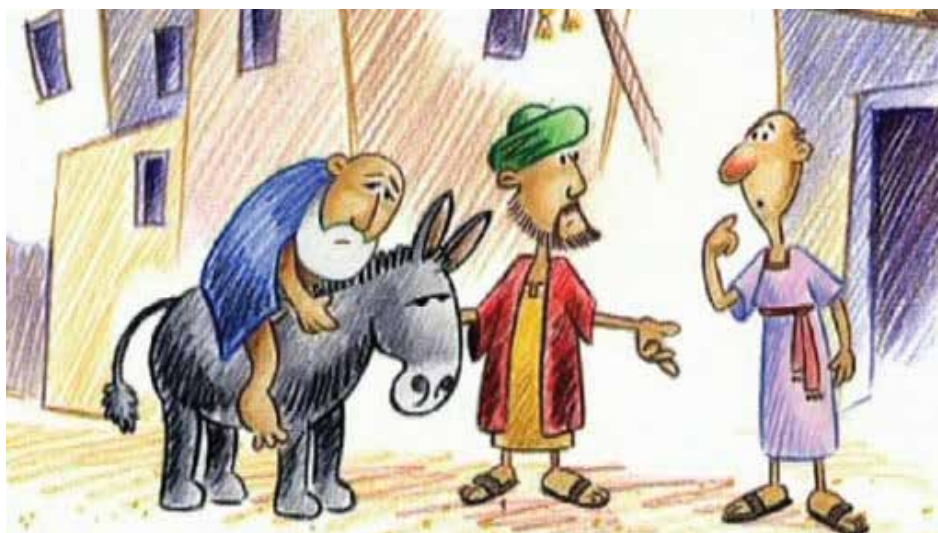
- Commission Mosaic Mission missionaries
- Commission missionaries from their ministry to evangelize their homelands
- Commission missionaries overseas to other nations and cultures

### 3. The Character of Mosaic Ministry missionaries

#### To live missional lives in the everyday life of here and now

- Minister and serve in the everyday life: Serve as missionaries constantly in everyday life and not simply in special events or short term mission.
- Serve with the professional career one belongs to: Serve and share the Gospel with the people of other ethnocultural communities through the professional career they hold, in the family, workplace, school and church.
- Serve in partnership: Maximizes the effect of ministry and evangelism by working in partnership with others, complimenting the gifts and calling of each, beyond the limits of any single church or mission organization.
- Serve together as the Body of Christ : See Romans 2:1~8, 1 Corinthians 12:1~31, Ephesians 4:1~12

### 4. People Mosaic Ministry reaches out to



Mosaic Ministry aims to be neighbors to everyone who is in need:

## Luke 10:25-37

Jesus does not give an answer to who is the neighbor of the “Teacher of the Law” is, but asks who is the neighbor to the “man who fell into the hands of the robbers.”

**25: On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.**

“Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

**26: “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”**

**27: He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”**

**[Deuteronomy 6:5]; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’[Leviticus 19:18]**

The teacher of the law, like many of us, give a “correct answer,” – good doctrine.

**28: “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”**

**29: But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”**

Many of us, like this teacher of the law, consider as our neighbors those who are like us – same culture, ethnicity, income level, socioeconomic status, religion, and even same particular doctrinal position! Our neighbors are not those created in the image of God, but created in the image of ourselves.

Jesus then teaches us in Luke 10:30-37 through the story of the good Samaritan who helps a complete stranger—likely Jewish, even more amazingly—to reveal to us the heart of God for all the people of the world.

Thus, he reminds us of the principle God commanded His people in (Leviticus 19:34).

**“The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.”**



In this parable, the high priest and the Levite acted with a sense of religious superiority, while the Samaritan was a rebuke to this pride of the Jewish religious establishment. Neither the high priest nor the Levite realizes that the victim of the robbery is their neighbor. Then, Jesus asks the teacher of the law in v.36, “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The teacher replies in v.37, “The one who had mercy on him.” and Jesus tells him, “Go and do likewise.”

Thus the question is not who is our neighbor, but who – which ethnocultural people, for mission – is in spiritual and physical need and thus need us to be their neighbor.

**Acts 11:19-21: Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, spreading the word only among Jews. Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord’s hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.**

## 5. How can we partner with, and serve in, the mission work of Mosaic ministry?

- Listen and obey in faith God's calling to be missionaries in Mosaic Ministry.
- Be guided by the Holy Spirit through prayer and Word, and participate in the mission work of Mosaic Ministry.
- Partner in intercessory prayer for the ethnocultural peoples around us.
- Partner with ministry and outreach toward unreached people among us, with a loving and hopeful heart.
- Share the Gospel – the whole Gospel: Be concerned with spiritual and their daily, physical needs.
  - Ministry of salvation: Partner in the ministry of sharing the Gospel, planting and raising up churches, and with education and discipleship training. Prepare a personal testimony (3–5 minutes: on personal encounter with God, the saving power of Jesus, and what God has done for you)
  - Social ministry: Give aid to meet the physical needs of the marginalized (in finance, health, family issues).

- Serve with gifts, talents, and passions God has given us, that address their needs.
  - Identify the needs of those we seek to serve and reach out to.
  - Serve with gifts and passions in Children's school, classes for Seniors, ESL, Sports, and Praise ministry, which fill these needs.
  - Gifts, talents, and experience, gained through our work and career in the public sphere (business, accounting, law, medicine, counseling, teaching, construction, carpentry, mechanics, arts, music, sports, etc.) will be invaluable in meeting such needs.
  - Participate in the ministry to encourage and raise up the next generation of these communities through “Mosaic scholarship” program.
- Do even small tasks as work unto our Lord.

**Colossians 3:23: Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.**

When serving where God has called us, we ought to do even seemingly small tasks with all our hearts and strength, as working for the Lord. Whether having coffee or tea with those we are called to reach out to, giving them rides, teaching them, helping them financially, or praying for them, do so unto the Lord, as each of these will glorify God.

- Each small piece contribute to the beautiful whole.                      – Mosaic Cultural Ministry –
- Act in accordance with what we learn and believe.
 

It is better to act to serve in one thing in accordance to what we learn, than learning and understanding hundred things, but fail to act on them.
- Be their Spiritual Friends.
 

Be spiritual friends or parents to our neighbors (people we meet in our neighborhood, workplace, business) and pray for them.
- Mobilization ministry for Mosaic Cultural Ministry
  - Share the vision of Mosaic Cultural ministry with the church and fellow Christians to call and mobilize the workers for ministry.
  - Learn from the early Church (Acts 2:43-47): Call and mobilize ministry workers filled with wisdom and the Holy Spirit like the Seven deacons.
  - Raise up a dynamic ministry team, rather than a fixed organization.
  - Awaken 99% of laity and mobilize them for Mosaic cultural ministry.
  - Mobilize the women of the Church, who hold vast potential and influence.



Prayer for ministry partners of Mosaic Ministry

## 6. Key information to know for Mosaic Cultural ministry and mission

- Learn and research the needs of different ethnocultural immigrant communities.
- Learn about family doctors, walk-in clinics, OHIP, child benefits, free vaccination, etc. around your neighborhood, which will be helpful to them.
- Find out about lawyers and legal counsel that may aid them in applying for refugee status, immigration, and other legal matters.
- For those in need, find out about welfare office in the area, and how to apply for aid, and accompany them and help them with documentation.
- Find out about location and opening hours of Clothing and Food Banks.
- Find time and locations of job fairs, and aid them with finding employment.
- Learn which jobs are available—especially those they can do even without good grasp of the English language.
- Find out about available ESL programs, or even set up an ESL program.
- Learn about the availability of (bilingual) Child care services and (bilingual) Medical services and social services; go with them to apply for such services. Consider also whether your church can offer such services.
- Find out about availability of low-income housing and apartments, qualifications and application, and help them go through the process; make sure to follow up with them after the application.
- Help them find rent and housing from management office, which do not show discriminate ethnic minorities when they apply.



## 7. Practical things we can do in the “public square” to help their lives

- Help them find school, housing, and employment.
- If needed, provide them temporary place to stay. (A church may even decide to rent or buy a housing property for this purpose) - e.g. Adam House, Matthew House
- Help them purchase food, appliances, furniture, and other living goods (Or, the church may decide to collect these goods through donation from congregation member)
- Help them learn to shop—guide them through shopping and teach them locations of stores, and other shopping tips, such as buying during a sale, using coupons and discounts, finding garage sale, etc. Teach them about different shops, such as drug store, dollar store, outlets, malls, wholesale and supermarkets, etc.
- Depending on the country of origin, some immigrants may have fear or distrust toward law enforcement; teach them that in Canada, law enforcement and security can be trusted.
- Teach them how to use public transit (TTC), Parking Meters, public phones, and public restrooms.
- Teach them how to call 911, emergency, or use Television, Internet, or libraries.
- Help them set up bank account, phone, television, and internet.
- Help them learn English, and use the opportunity to learn their language.
- Converse with them often and build a healthy relationship with them; get to know them, their homes, their culture, their needs, fears, or dreams.
- In school, help them with their studies and assignments, such as proofreading.
- Introduce them to new friends—especially fellow Christians.
- Invite them for fellowship—meals, meetings, movies, sports, picnics, church events, weddings, baptisms, and others.
- Set aside some funds in case an urgent need arises among them.
- Give them rides to church, doctor, dentist, social services, and airport.
- Provide them information and help for the education of their children, such as parent-teacher interviews, computer, television, and internet use of children, school dress code, peer pressure, etc.

## 8. Partnering in ministry with Ethnocultural immigrant community for Evangelism

- Invite Christian leaders or pastors in those communities as teachers, speakers or seminar leaders for church's mission seminars and forums.
- Partner with churches of those communities so that members of the congregation (especially those interested in mission) can live missionally in everyday life.
- Encourage returning missionaries or missionaries on sabbatical at home to engage and fellowship with Christians and churches of those communities.

- Look especially for families and house churches in those communities that are in great need, and take practical steps to encourage and help them.
- Invite them for meals, picnics, movies, sports events—plan joint fellowship with churches in those communities.
- Participate in key events of other ethnocultural communities, and invite them to events of the church—especially, events in churches within those communities.
- When churches in those communities grow and partnership with them is strong, partner with them for specific ministry initiatives, such as ministry toward the elderly, the disabled, the homeless, or new immigrants.
- In church events and services, invite and hear the testimonies of the ministry leaders and pastors in the ethnocultural community.
- Hold joint service with churches of other ethnocultural communities.
- Pray for specific ethnocultural immigrant community, churches serving in them, Christians among them, and the well-being of their homelands.

## 9. Diverse ways to participate in mission and evangelism in Mosaic Ministry

- Multimedia ( IT/computer, ESL, sports, medical mission, praise, mercy, construction, repairs, electricity, plumbing, carpentry...)
- School and campus ministry (university, high school, primary school); evangelism through friendship
- Adult and youth leaders training
- Partnering in family and community evangelism
- Home and small business visitation, praying for the community, malls, restaurants, and businesses in the community
- Build friendship with them and learn their language.
- Invite neighbors from other cultures for Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving Day, and New Years to build relationship – take best of such opportunities as a church to share the Gospel.
- Pray and support churches, Christians, seminary students, and pastors who are in need among the ethnocultural immigrant community.
- Participate in worship service and evangelistic outreach events of churches within the ethnocultural community; attend their picnics, and cultural events.
- Support their children camp or youth retreats.
- Host joint events with churches of ethnocultural community: joint worship service, evangelistic outreach, cultural events, etc.

## Sacrifice and commitment is necessary, even in mission here and now at home

The place of suffering in service and of passion in mission is hardly ever taught today. But the greatest single secret of evangelistic or missionary effectiveness is the willingness to suffer and die. It may be a death to popularity (by faithfully preaching the unpopular biblical gospel), or to pride (by the use of modest methods in reliance on the Holy Spirit), or to racial and national prejudice (by identification with another culture), or to material comfort (by adopting simple lifestyle). But the servant must suffer if he is to bring light to the nations, and the seed must die if it is to multiply.

- John Stott, in *The Cross of Christ* -

Whether we do mission overseas, or share the Gospel in everyday life near our homes, suffering and passion is necessary. We may have various reasons for not being called to mission overseas; however, God has brought the peoples of the world here, to be our neighbors, so that we can share the Gospel with peoples that missionaries had to once cross the oceans to reach. So, there is now no reason to excuse ourselves from the call of mission. Even so, we may hesitate in committing to mission through Mosaic cultural ministry, because of the biblical truth John Stott points out: to have fruitful mission, we must be willing to suffer and die. That is, we are not willing to commit to the work that would require sacrifice of things we have.

**Revelations 7:9: ...there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.**

“Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn’t. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more.... Therefore, worship is the fuel and goal of missions.”

-John Piper, in *Let the Nations be Glad!*-



CMCA Joint Worship for partner churches

### Applying to our Lives

Let us learn what we can do in our everyday life for mission, and do it today  
– even if it is one small thing

### Prayer:

God our Father, until now, we thought that we had to travel to foreign lands to share the Gospel with peoples who never met you, Lord. But, You have now brought the peoples of the world from every culture and language to live as our neighbors, so that we can share the Gospel of your Son, Jesus, with them. Thank you.

Holy Spirit, I cannot do this work by myself. Teach me, guide me, and strengthen me, raise us up and enable us to partner and work together as church and fellow Christians, to accomplish the mission of Mosaic cultural ministry.

In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Information about Mosaic Cultural Ministry can be found below:

### CMCA (Canada Mosaic Christian Alliance)

- CMCA Web Site: [www.cmcaallnations.org](http://www.cmcaallnations.org)
- CMCA Face Book
- E-Mail Address: [cmca.allnations@gmail.com](mailto:cmca.allnations@gmail.com)
- Mobile: 416-886-9101
- Office: 416-497-2424

### Websites with data cited for ministry (See also Session 1Resources)

- Statistics Canada
- Joshua Project – <https://joshuaproject.net>
- TIM Centre – [www.ureachtoronto.com](http://www.ureachtoronto.com)
- Open Doors – <http://www.opendoorsca.org>

## CMCA Video



2015 CMCA New Life Festival  
(Joint CMCA church evangelistic service)  
(3 min)

<https://youtu.be/R7YS9U0h0qA>



2015 CMCA Joint Cultural Festival (3 min)

<https://youtu.be/a6VB5VX1Gel>