



**MARKETPLACE
CONNECT**

Marketplace Connect Seminar

“ A time of connection, inspiration and equipping the people of God for their ministry in the marketplace.”

Marketplace Connect is a network of Christians in WA who believe that it is time to release the resources of all God’s people. Our purpose is to link believers in prayer, witness, discipleship and study to see the presence of Jesus manifested in the workplace.

This is the goal of our first seminar.

Presenters : Local people who are “doing it” in their area of ministry.

Topics : prayer cells in the marketplace, evangelism through business, pastoring your workmates, seeing God at work, “half-timer”, marketplace and community.

This will be an opportunity for interaction and networking. The day will conclude with a question and answer forum.

Saturday 2 May 2009 from 9 am – 12.30 pm
Venue: Mt Pleasant Baptist Church
497 Marmion St Booragoon



Marketplace Connect:

A network of mutually supporting networks that share a common purpose to see Christ glorified in the marketplace of life.

Marketplace:

A space where people exchange goods, gifts, values, opinions, resources and ideas.

Vision:

That every dimension of human life be filled with the presence of Jesus (Eph 4:10).

Mission:

To see every Christian fulfil their God given call to be salt and light for Jesus in the marketplace (Matt 5:13 - 16).

Strategy:

To work with God (1 Thess 3:2) in growing his Kingdom in the marketplace by:

- Connecting, inspiring and equipping Christians in the marketplace.
- Providing access to resources to do with marketplace ministry.
- Providing information on upcoming events.
- Facilitating courses and conferences focussed on marketplace ministry.
- Assisting local churches to equip their members for ministry in the marketplace.



PROGRAMME

Session 1 9.00 – 10.40

Introduction	Jeroen Bruins (10 mins)
Prayer in the marketplace	Jeroen Bruins (10 mins)
Evangelism in the marketplace	Jim Lim (15 mins)
Serving the Market Place	Dushan Jeyabalan (15 mins)
Market Place Shepherds	Richard Foster (15 mins)
God at Work	John Nicholls (15 mins)
Doing Business with God	John Grullis (15 mins)

10.40 - 11.00 Break

Session 2 11.00 – 12.30

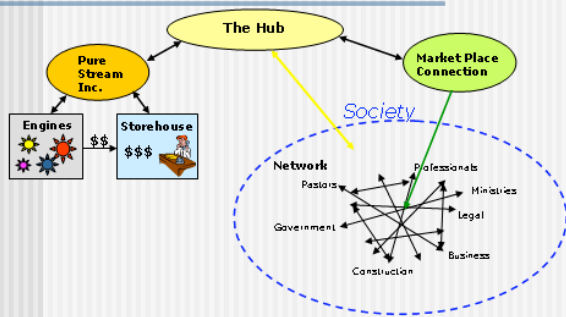
“Half Time”	San Wee (15 mins)
Marketplace and Community	Mike Fewson & others (15mins)
God’s word for the marketplace Today	John Yates (15 mins)
Panel – questions and answers	All (30mins)
Wrap up	Jeroen Bruins (5 mins)



JEROEN BRUINS - INTRODUCTION

Market Place Connection

The Organism



Market Place Connection

Vision and Mission

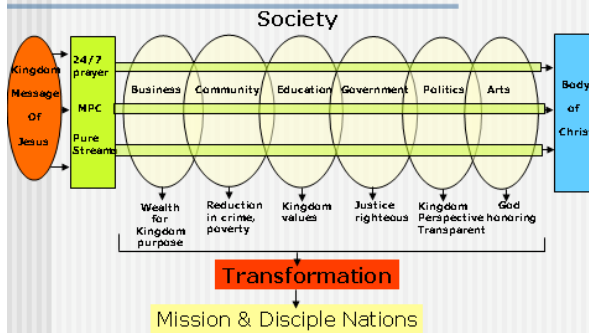
Perth to become a city of God under the headship of Jesus and governed according to scriptural principles

Transformation of Perth from a secular city to a city of God through marketplace ministry in all areas of society.

Our commitment is to build the Kingdom of God by mobilising, equipping and releasing Christians in the marketplace.

Market Place Connection

The Dynamics



Market Place Connection

Core Values

What we believe and how we work together

- Absolute Sovereignty of God in all things
- Jesus at the Center of all things
- Holy Spirit empowered in all things
- Prayer is at the foundation of all things
- Sacrificial living (fasted lifestyle)
- Work as a counter-cultural community of followers of Jesus
- Our relationships are characterized by trust, integrity, transparency, respect, loyalty and faithfulness

Notes:



JEROEN BRUINS - PRAYER IN THE MARKET PLACE

In early 2008 the Lord impressed upon me that the reason I work for Woodside is not only to pay the bills, but that He placed me there for a Kingdom purpose. He stirred me to do something in Woodside that would glorify His name. I shared this with a couple of Christians, who also work in Woodside. We decided to seek God, regarding his will for Woodside and reconvene within a month. When we came together again we felt the Lord wanted us to start prayer groups on every floor of the Woodside building (16). We started by seeking out Christians in Woodside, connecting those on the same or adjacent floors and encouraging them to start praying together. At present 4 so called “prayer pockets” are actively praying together once a week for transformation of the workplace, so that Jesus and His ministry will become “business as usual”. The prayer pockets meet for 30 mins during lunch break and pray for their colleagues, supervisors, managers, directors and business. Once a month we all meet together for lunch to connect, to get to know and encourage one another.

It is God’s Spirit, who is making the connections and putting a desire to pray in the hearts of my Christian colleagues. We do not have to “make anything happen”. And this is not only happening in Woodside. I shared what is happening in Woodside with a brother in Chevron and encouraged him to start praying in his workplace. Now there is a group of 8 Christians (and growing) praying for their colleagues in Chevron. Similarly I met a brother, who works in Transfield-Worley. A prayer pocket has started there as well. The last lunch we had 20 guys attending and it was marvellous to see that in Christ cultural, denominational and company boundaries fall away.

We have faith that prayer will spread in companies, such as Shell, BHP, Rio Tinto and every business in town. When prayer starts saturating Perth CBD we believe that the Kingdom of Jesus will transform the secular business world, such that it will become a blessing to society and bring glory to Jesus.

Notes:

Biography

Jeroen Bruins has worked in the oil and gas industry for the last 23 yrs and lives in Perth since 1997. He works with Woodside Energy as an Exploration Manager, responsible for developing new business in SE Asia. One of his passions is to see prayer in business’ throughout Perth CBD, so that Jesus and His Kingdom will become manifest in every business.

www.marketplaceconnect.com.au

Enquiries: Jeroen Bruins, email: jereva@iinet.net.au



JIM LIM - EVANGELISM IN THE MARKET PLACE

- Jim sees his accountancy firm not only as an income-generating firm but also a place where God ministers and enables him to pray for people in the building, staff as well as clients.
- Establishing an office cell has proven to be invaluable and has brought many blessings.
- Marketplace ministry according to Luke 10 principle :
 - a) Pray for peace in the office
 - b) Seek the “man of peace” in the office
 - c) Meeting needs of individual whom the Lord brings onto Jim’s path through prayer and through any other means which deem fit.
 - d) Fellowship
 - e) Sharing the gospel
- Since an office cell is established Jim has seen people saved and healed, both physical and emotional healing.
- Office Cell – every Friday in Subiaco office from 12 noon to 1 pm
- Cell attendees includes 2 office staffs, one is in charge of worship

Notes:

Biography:

Jim Lim has held directorship in public companies and currently operates his own accounting firm. He is also a pastor of FGA Marketplace and a minister of God in office. He runs office cell ministry every Friday.



DUSHAN JEYABALAN - SERVING THE MARKET PLACE

To be in the marketplace gives an opportunity to engage with business people in the marketplace and to share the Love of Christ by engaging in conversation.

God is already at work, and we just need to be faithful to God. He asks us:

- 1) to be still and know that I am God, and
- 2) to seek first the Kingdom of God and all other things will be added to you.

Look for where He is at work and join Jesus in his ministry.

Notes:

Biography

Dushan has a background in sales, marketing and banking and was ANZ Corporate Banking, but in 2001 he came to Perth to take up the role of Manager of Perth Bible College. He and his wife Jeyanthi started the Perth operations of Opportunity International Australia on a volunteer basis. Since 2004 Dushan works full time for Opportunity International. His passion is to serve the poor through microfinance & enterprise development services and to share the love of Christ with others.

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Enquiries: Jeroen Bruins, email: jereva@iinet.net.au



RICHARD FOSTER - MARKET PLACE SHEPHERDS

Matthew's Gospel records that as Jesus went from town to town preaching the gospel, healing the sick and performing miracles he stopped when he saw the people because they were distressed and dispirited and had no shepherd (Mtt. 9:35-36). He saw the people and he had compassion on them, they didn't know where to go or how to get there, how could they without anyone to lead them? As you look out at your marketplace what do you see? Do you see people who are lost and lonely and do you have compassion on them? The people in your world need shepherds; they need men and women who are called by God to lead the sheep into good pasture and to protect them against wolves. As Jesus looks at these same people what does he see? Does he see sheep without shepherds or does he see faithful men and women caring for the sheep that have been entrusted to them?

Who are these people who are called to be shepherds, and what do they do? Where do they find the sheep and what are folds they are to be brought into. This presentation will, hopefully, address and may even answer these questions and provoke some more.

Notes:

Biography:

Richard is married to Roslyn, father to six children and grandfather of 2 (soon to be 3). He is pastor of Beckenham Community Church and also lectures in Business and Management. Richard is a member of the International Transformation Network, an association of Christian leaders, representing the pulpit and the marketplace, whose purpose is to see the Great Commission fulfilled in our generation through the discipling of nations. He is also a member of a several pastoral and marketplace networks across the state and is the author of bible-based studies that are circulated worldwide. Apart from his church based pastoral ministry Richard has worked as an administrator, lecturer, businessman, groundsman, dishwasher and builder and serves as secretary of Governor's Prayer Breakfast Organising Committee and is also responsible for organizing and managing prayer support for the Governor's Prayer Breakfast.



JOHN NICHOLLS - GOD AT WORK

Some 3 years ago John felt called to Pastor in the Marketplace. This passion led John to develop and co-ordinate a fellowship aimed at equipping and encouraging Christian men & women to bring Kingdom Values into their workplace

Notes:

Biography:

Mr John Nicholls is an Accountant by profession. For the first part of his career he worked as a Financial Controller in production facilities across Australia for a large Public Company. For the past 20 years he has been Principal of an Accounting & Taxation practice in Perth.



JOHN GRULLIS - DOING BUSINESS WITH GOD

John has worked in the Oil & Gas Exploration industry for 24 years, followed by 9 years in a small business "Pathfinder Resources". This business is a service provider for the Oil & Gas Exploration industry using biblical principles. "Doing business with God" Deut 8 :18.

In January 2000 Pathfinder Resources Australia Pty Ltd opened its doors. I founded the business on the following scriptures:

- *"But you shall earnestly remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he swore to your fathers, as it is this day."* (Deut 8:18 Amplified Bible).
- 1 Chron 29:10-13.

At this time I had no business acumen and only several completed units of the TAFE business course. Through my lack God wanted to teach me his principles, as I daily sought Him more and more. He taught me principles that resulted in financially blessing as I applied them and conversely I noticed that the rewards failed when I didn't implement his ways. I learnt to seek wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit and to apply his way of doing things.

Here are some of the principles I have learnt to apply in my business:

1. Before I start my car in the driveway I ask God to come to work with me. I ask for His love, peace, patience and kindness to flow through me throughout the day. I ask the Holy Spirit for godly wisdom and knowledge in everything I do and say. I ask him to stand guard over my mouth and give him permission to jerk me into line if I say or do something offensive to Him. When I arrive at work I remain in the car for a few minutes and pray for the other businesses in the same building.
2. Prior to calling a potential client I ask God to give me favour with the person and soften his/her heart. I do the same when the phone rings. I remember to thank God for favour with the caller.
3. **Blessings of obedience** (Deut 10:12 and Deut 28: 1-14). Debt is one of the greatest causes of stress among Christians, especially Christian business people. One of the most important principles I have learnt is to keep free of debt. I pay every debt and invoice on the day it is received. One of the reasons Pathfinder Resources has remained debt free is by implementing the principle of not withholding another company's prosperity by delay in paying invoices. We realize that if people blame God for their troubles they will



become ineffectual. So we keep out of debt and thank God in all circumstances.

4. **Prayer** is vital. I believe I have received insight into God's ways of multiplication through prayer. Christian employees are encouraged to pray for 5 minutes every morning for their supervisors, managers, and business owners.
 - **God answers prayer** much quicker when we pray for others. As he knows our needs, we put others first.
 - The prayer of agreement (Matt 18: 18-20). We agree in prayer for the needs of our business with our spouse first, and then with our businesspartners (if they are Christian). We do not hold onto strife or grudges and are very quick to forgive others whether we are right or wrong. We remember that a house divided cannot stand.
 - Pray for favour. Our future is not thrust upon us without our consent. We impact our future every day by either giving God first place in our lives - or by putting the things of this world first. We realize we have a choice: plant the seeds of God's word in our hearts each day, or entertain the doubts and fears of the world.
 - Breakthrough time. The scripture says of God that he: "calls things that are not as though they were" (Rom 4:17). If after all the above we still don't see changes for good we know that the enemy has fired his best shot and this is the time to stand firm (Eph 6:13-14). It seems that around 8 out of 10 Christian business people give up on prayer when the going gets tough and don't receive what God wants them to have.

Notes:

Biography:

John has worked in the Oil & Gas Exploration industry for 24 years, followed by 9 years in a small business "Pathfinder Resources". This business is a service provider for the Oil & Gas Exploration industry using biblical principles. " Doing business with God " Deut 8 :18.



SAN WEE - "HALF TIME"

STAGES OF THE JOURNEY

Halftime.....by San Wee

**Stage 1
Foundation Of Success**



- I have accomplished what I set out to do, but is there more to life?
- How much (stuff, money, advancement) is enough?
- In what ways is my success a platform for something even more meaningful?

Moses' Halftime Journey
Moses grew up in Pharaoh's court and learned what it meant to prosper and have power. Yet Moses reached a point in his life where he questioned his purpose and began to search for something more.

**Stage 2
The Journey Inward**



- What am I really passionate about?
- What are my core values/practices and greatest strengths?
- Who can come alongside me to provide.... wisdom and insights & journey with me?

Moses' Halftime Journey
Moses fled from Egypt into the desert of Midian to take refuge and live for a time in solitude and introspection.

**Stage 3
Awakening Challenge**



- How can I open up enough margin in my life to pursue my calling?
- How do I prepare myself and my family for this transition?
- How do I begin to prepare & find the serving opportunities that fit me?

Moses' Halftime Journey
Moses had an encounter with God (The Burning Bush) and responded to God's challenge to live a life of significance.

**Stage 4
Reaching Potential**



- How can I make my new vision fit with my financial situation?
- Where can I make my highest and best contribution?
- Am I growing closer to God and to those I love as I embark on this new journey?

Moses' Halftime Journey
Once Moses focused his life's energies in obedience to God's calling, he became an unstoppable force, as the parting of the Red Sea demonstrates.

Conclusion....It's about ROI

Steward the temporal; give your life in exchange for the eternal. Keep the value of your possessions in proper perspective; they are given by God to assist you in investing in "the fruit that remains" This best prepares you for an eternity with Him.

What does your investment portfolio reveal about your belief?

Biography:

San Wee is an Engineer by training and has a MBA .He runs a consultancy that turns around waning companies. He is the executive director & owner of many successful companies in Singapore. He uses his business experience & resources to support orphanages and other community service oriented projects. His passion is to challenge people to live significant & fulfilled lives. He also helps Christian businessmen to be effective and successful in their business. He is associated with Bob Buford's (author of "HALFTIME from Success to Significance") Half Time Organisation.



MIKE FEWSON AND OTHERS - MARKET PLACE AND COMMUNITY

Kingdom Business as a legitimate marketplace member and a legitimate base of contact and interaction with the world

Intro:

According to International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia the various words associated with market and/or marketplace speak about trading, merchandise, goods exchanged and a gathering place where the public generally met to exchange views and wares. The marketplace was where the church was birthed.

The primary purpose of Kingdom Business is to trade with those outside the Kingdom as legitimate members of the marketplace and to connect and interact with them as Kingdom people.

Kingdom Business and the family of God

Acts 4:32-35; Neh 5:1-12

In relation to the church, Kingdom Business provides resources including finance, employment and skills to provide for the House of God.

Kingdom Business and the world

Win respect: Free from dependence on the world.

1Thess 4:11-12; 1 Cor 7:21

In relation to the world, Kingdom Business empowers disciples of Christ to engage the world on Kingdom terms rather than as slaves in Egypt. It trades with and on an equal footing as everyone else and doing it with Kingdom values that win respect from the marketplace. This enables a witness firstly to our “love for one another” (Jn 13:34-35) and ultimately to Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8).

Biography:

Michael Fewson is a fulltime overseer of churches and businesses. He has helped with the establishment of four Perth-based and two Tanzanian-based Kingdom Businesses and is an advising director for them. (With a few more in the development stage)

He travels as an itinerant minister speaking about *the apostolic church* – the church of Jesus Christ shaped by the cross – and *Kingdom Business in the marketplace*.



MIKE FEWSON AND OTHERS - MARKET PLACE AND COMMUNITY
(Continued)

Testimonies

- Win respect to witness - Dale Fewson
A base of contact and interaction - Pascal Michel

Notes:

Biography:

Dale Fewson is a business owner, barista and developing cafe guru. Dale's desire is to see the Kingdom of God advancing through businesses that are totally dedicated to God's Kingdom.

Pascal Michel is the pastor of Living Way Christian Church and a barista. He is motivated by the commission to make disciples teaching them to obey everything Jesus commanded. Kingdom businesses are excellent environments for discipleship to happen.



JOHN YATES - GOD'S WORD FOR THE MARKET PLACE TODAY

Discovering the Kingdom of God

Key text: Matt 13:34 – 36

““The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.””

1. The Nature of the Kingdom

The kingdom of God is God's active ruling power. This is what God does as King to establish his kingdom on earth.

The kingdom of God was the central focus of Jesus' teaching in the first 3 Gospels, e.g. on prayer, “your kingdom come” (Matt 6:10; Matt 4:23; Mark 1:15; Acts 1:3 etc.).

The kingdom of God was accompanied by various signs that expressed the presence of God, e.g. Matt 11:5 “the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.”

It is the nature of the kingdom of God as liberating from the tyranny of all evil that makes its message “good news”.

As such, the kingdom of God is essentially communicable.

2. The Rediscovery of the Kingdom

The discovery of the kingdom of God is unexpected. It happens in the marketplace world of work, not in some limited “holy place” into which special people have privileged access.

God's kingdom encompasses all over which he rules, not just those who recognise his authority (Ps 2:8; 110:1; Rev 19:16).

When the kingdom is discovered the result is joy and undivided passion (Matt 13:44 - 46).



This is because a new kind of wealth is found that “demonitizes” every other currency – money, approval, position.....everything other than a relationship with the King of the kingdom is discarded. “But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. **8** Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ” (Phil 3:7 - 8).

3. A New Vision of God

What is being discovered is the surpassing excellence of Christ ruling in the purity of his person.

It is Jesus who brings in the kingdom, not any human effort of organisation. The Jesus found in the marketplace has “no other name” (Acts 4:12) e.g. Baptist, Calvinist, Protestant, Pentecostal.

Jesus found in the marketplace is the only King and Shepherd of a single flock (John 10:16). This means a rediscovery of the unity of the body of Christ (Eph 4:4 - 6).

The beauty of the presence of the Lord will become more and more overwhelming, spilling out everywhere. Many others will make this greatest of discoveries – the eternal kingdom is freely given.

What was most precious to Jesus?

“Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.” (John 14:10 cf. 5:17; 10:25, 37).

Jesus sensed that the one who created the world, spoke to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, gave the Law to Moses....formed him by the power of the Spirit in his mother’s womb...lived in him and was his Father. Father in the deepest possible intimacy indwelling all he did.

This revelation is the key to a remarkable global transformation, a true grace awakening that God is bringing to pass across our planet – this time not in the cloisters of the gathered church (cf. Luther etc.) but in the everyday world of the marketplace. In the marketplace, where everything is seemingly based on performance, men and women are beginning to realise that as the children of God they do not work *for* God but they do their works “in God” (John 3:21 cf. Col 3:3; 1 John 3:24).



4. Discipling the Nations

Jesus is raising up today a grass roots movement answerable directly to himself.

This rediscovery is happening in the world of the marketplace, because in Christ its goal is the discipling of nations (Matt 28:8 - 20) and those who are in the best place to do this are not professional Christians (so –called “full time” pastors and missionaries) but those who are already immersed in the world.

Notes:

Biography

After serving in the ordained ministry and lecturing theology, John Yates now spends a great deal of his time mentoring and encouraging Christians in the marketplace. This is the result of a visionary call revealing God’s purpose in the present time is “the restoration of all things” (Acts 3:21).

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Enquiries: Jeroen Bruins, email: jereva@iinet.net.au



O & A FORUM

Notes: