The Redeemed Christian Church of God Open Heavens Assembly, Johannesburg

Digging Deep

CHRISTIANITY AND SOCIALISATION

Texts: 1 Cor 6: 12-13, Phil 4:5

INTRODUCTION

To socialise simply means 'to talk to and do things with other people in a friendly way'. There are various ways of socialising, ranging from relating with people in the immediate environment, to getting involved in governance and community development activities. Christian socialisation cuts across many levels of human interactions; whilst there are various opinions on how much a Christian should socialise; it should be noted that 'Moderation' should be the watch word.

A. EXAMPLES OF SOCIALISATION

- 1. Jesus Christ and His disciples attending a wedding ceremony at Cana in Galilee. Jhn 2: 1-2, Lk 19: 5-7, Lk 10: 38-42. Jesus also visited the family of Lazarus to console them and support them. Jhn 11: 33-35.
- 2. Jesus and His disciples also participated in the Passover Feast. Mk. 14: 12-14.
- 3. Daniel was involved in political administration in his days. Dan. 1: 18-21, 6: 1-3.
- 4. Apostle Paul interacted with diverse classes of people for the sake of the gospel, but his salvation stand was firm and clear to all. 1 Cor. 9: 19-23; 24-27.

B. BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES VERSUS WORDLY PERSPECTIVES

- 1. Christians cannot live in isolation in this present world. However, we must know when and how to draw the line. 1 Cor. 10: 20 -22, 27-28. 1 Tim 4:8. 1 Cor. 6:18.
- 2. Modernised carnivals with satanic undertones and places should be avoided. 1 Cor. 8: 9-13, 1 Tim 6:11.
- 3. Watching of immoral movies, listening to ungodly songs and wearing seductive apparels in the name of socialisation are things Christians should avoid. Phil 4: 5, 1 Cor. 8: 8-11.
- 4. While getting involved in secular activities, Christians should watch out for and abstain from anything that can make them compromise their faith. Phil 4: 8, 1 Cor. 10: 14, 1 Thess 5:22.

CONCLUSION

As children of God, whatever we do to socialise should be to glorify God and to edify the saints. Christians are to show moderation in social interactions. 1 Cor. 10: 31-32.