

Why Worry About Reverse Mission? A Biblical Look at Generational Missions

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Normally, mission is more considered in the context of the spread of the Gospel in new territories and geographical areas. This idea of mission has led to a situation where the centre of Christianity has been moving round with the former ones dying off. This has continued to the extent that practitioners are thinking of 'reverse mission'. But reverse mission is only expected if the formerly evangelized areas are not well rooted and sustained. The question is, are there mission-oriented approaches of ensuring continuous existence of the Christian faith at a geographical area in a way that generations tend to act as missionaries to the next generations? Are there some biblical perspectives on a generation serving as missionaries to the next? Can such generational missions help avoid reverse mission? This paper looks at the biblical perspectives of transferring the Christian faith through generations rather than through external missionaries. It also considers findings from relevant works as basis for contextualizing generational mission. With a contextual analysis of both the Old and New Testaments and relevant literature, the paper recommends inter-generational worship as a way of sustaining the faith through generations. It further recommends succession planning and arrangements for generations as a better alternative to training of just the local indigenes.

A Short Bio of Samuel Asare (Rev.)

Rev. Samuel Asare a full-time minister of the Church of Pentecost serving as a Youth Pastor for the Sunyani Area of the Church with professional expertise in development and social development. He has research interest in Church Leadership and Administration, and issues relating to Youth and Mission.