

Thesis Statement: Urbanization and Globalization is necessary for an increase in human productivity as well as the advancement of the Kingdom because change is absolutely necessary..

Summary: In Chapter 12, Rynkiewicz defines urbanization as a population shift that has occurred all throughout history. The reason this population shift happens is because cities have structures that provide labor, stability and services. There have been negative stereotypes of the city which has caused missionaries in the past to avoid cities. American Protestants have a strong bias against urban ministry because of the belief that the gospel should be preached to unreached people groups. It wasn't until more recently where urban ministry has received more attention and there is a completely different approach to having a church in the city than a church in a rural region. The urban church would need to maintain a strong network because of the constant flow of people and to be able to understand the various people groups that the around the church's neighborhood. There must also be an understanding on the economical and cultural status of the people that attend or around the church. Rynkiewicz wants to raise the awareness that mission isn't only limited to somewhere outside your own context, but there is a lot that the urban church has failed in advancing the Kingdom and being the light on the hill. He then talks about globalization which is the communication and engagement of people worldwide. There are many avenues where the urban church can be involved in missions all around the world and if one wants to be effective in communicating the gospel to another culture, one would first need to understand the daily life of the people in terms of economics, politics, and culture. The message that is applicable to people in America is most likely going to be not as applicable and be received way differently than someone from a completely different context and culture. It is important for churches to understand this and offer support to locals to advance the gospel because they are the ones that know their culture and people best.

Personal Reflection: If there is one thing to take away from history, it's that change always occurs and the majority of the time it is changed for the better. Throughout Scripture, there is constant change whether it is personal life changes or geographical changes, it is all for the advancement of the Kingdom. God doesn't expect us to remain stagnant and to keep to ourselves, but to live a changed life and to show others that they too can experience life change that is only received from having a relationship with Jesus.

Thoughts/Implications: Change is so present, especially now where so many changes have made the change to online services. The church hasn't had a change like this for decades and it is clear that those churches that didn't change had to close their doors. God desires growth for us and that requires change. Will we continue to break out of our comfort zones and look for ways to expand the Kingdom or will we just sit tight while the Kingdom advances and we're left behind?