

## **S6 CRE 4**

### **HOW CAPITALISM HAS WIDENED THE GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR.**

The poor seek employment from the rich who pay them low wages and maximise profits which make rich richer while the poor become poorer.

The rich have the capacity to buy in bulk at subsidized prices and sale at higher prices while the poor buy in small quantities and can't get profits or subsidized prices.

The rich can afford taking their children to good schools and attain good education which can help them get good jobs in future while the poor can't afford quality education and therefore can't compete favourably on the job market.

The rich use machines like tractors, computers to do their work faster and efficiently while the poor can't afford machines and will produce poor work.

The rich have their special leisure activities which they can enjoy exclusively and the poor can't afford them because they are too expensive for them.

The rich have ability to save money for future use because of the profits they get from their businesses while the poor don't save because they have no businesses where they can get enough income.

The rich have the ability to invest and earn profits while the poor can't invest because they don't have money therefore the rich will remain rich and the poor will remain poorer.

The capitalists can influence the political environment because they can easily bribe the voters while the poor end up losing which leaves the rich to dominate the poor by proposing ideas which favour them.

The poor dominate the agricultural sector and the rich exploit them by buying their produce at a cheaper cost, add value on it and get extra money.

Some capitalist evade and avoid taxes through smuggling, under estimation, transfer pricing of their businesses and malpractices which makes them rich compared to the poor who pay both direct and indirect taxes without fail.

The rich dominate the manufacturing industries whose products are very profitable hence making them richer as compared to the poor who only consume goods from the manufacturing industry.

## **CHRISTIANITY AND CAPITALISM.**

To a larger extent, Christianity agrees with capitalism because of the following reasons:

It encourages hard work in order to survive which is in line with Biblical directive in Gen 1&2 for man to sweat in order to earn a living.

Wealth is a blessing which God gives to those who obey him, God blessed man in Gen 1:28 and told him to work and subdue the earth.

Wealth can be used to assist others especially the poor by giving them food, shelter, etc which is a virtue recommended by Jesus when he praised a Good Samaritan who used his resources to cater for the man who had been beaten by robbers.

Capitalism is okay as long as one acquires his wealth in proper ways like mutual hard work, properly paying all the required taxes and observing the religious aspects of work like paying workers in time.

It encourages utilisation of God given resources like land, water etc, for God ordered man to cocreate.

It provides others with work in order for them to be independent just as St. Paul encouraged people to work in order to avoid being dependents/a burden to others.

It encourages the payment of taxes which promote national revenue hence enhancing national development after all Jesus said that, "Give Caesar what belongs to Caesar".

Capitalism provides basic needs of life like food Shelter, clothing, medical and other needs in the best way hence helping the poor.

Capitalism promotes talent development in the society hence giving a chance to some poor people to become rich like when God chose Bezalel and Uri the sons of Judah to make the sacred tent because of their craftsmanship

To a large extent, Christianity is in support of capitalism, to a small extent it is against capitalism.

It enables people to earn income and improve on their standards of living because the wages and salaries they receive from the capitalists as the Bible encourages employers to pay their workers.

However to a smaller extent, Christianity is against capitalism because of the following reasons.

It encourages exploitation of the poor since capitalist pay less with an aim of maximizing profits yet prophet Amos condemns the rich who used to exploit the poor.

It encourages cheating by avoiding and evading taxes, using wrong measurements, which is condemned in the Ten Commandments. "Do not steal".

It promotes enmity where some capitalists get involved in unhealthy competition to the extent of murders yet Christians are supposed to love one another.

It makes people forget God by putting all their hope and trust in wealth and growing complacent without praying to God like the rich man who died the next day after amassing wealth.

It makes people forget their families and concentrate on work and accumulating wealth yet Christianity calls for proper care and love of children because the family is a God given institution.

It promotes individualism and selfishness where the rich falsely and forcefully take what belongs to others which is condemned by prophet Amos as he calls for peaceful coexistence.

It creates classes among people for like the rich and the poor in the society yet Christianity calls for equality.

It leads to production of harmful and substandard products which affect people's lives to extent of causing deaths like guns, drugs yet life is God given.

***SAMPLE QUESTIONS:***

- 1a). Examine the role of capitalism as a path of development for a country like Uganda.
- b). Why does Christianity object to capitalism as an ideal path to development?
- 2). Examine the advantages and disadvantages of capitalism.
- 3). To what extent should Christians support capitalism as a strategy for development?
- 4a). How has capitalism widened the gap between the rich and the poor?
- b). What can Christians do to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor?

## **THE PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF WORK.**

These are standards of behaviours, expected competences as well as qualifications for a particular kind of work; they are normally written as codes of conduct or oaths taken at the time of commissioning of the professionals.

### **VALUES OR PURPOSE OF PROFFESIONAL ETHICS**

They ensure good behavior at work because they make people to be well disciplined and relate well with fellow workers at the place of work.

They help the professionals to know the do's and don'ts' like when to start working and when to stop. For example attending meetings, signing arrival and departure books.

One is able to know how to execute their duties in the best way, how to handle equipment and how to produce necessary work because professionals have qualification to handle different tasks.

It helps to set up the minimum qualifications required by the various professions. For example for one to be a practicing lawyer, he needs to have a degree in a law and a diploma in legal practice.

Professionals are usually updated with current issues to avoid being out dated in terms of information, technique and how to adjust to changes in science and technology

It instills the confidence in the professionals. This is because they are knowledgeable and well trained for their field which makes them to command respect from their clients.

Professionals avoid malpractices like corruption, bribery etc and thus are able to do their work diligently and with honesty that is expected of them.

Professional ethics help in boosting the quality of performance when the workers follow the ethics properly. They work with determination and exhibit a high degree of honesty and the end result is quality work.

Professional ethics guard workers against all sorts of immorality by helping people to maintain integrity, reputation as well as being trusted by the public more than those that are not professionals.

It enables the professionals to have self control over their emotions like anger, sexual feeling etc. When dealing with their clients. For example doctors are stopped from falling in love with their clients; teachers also follow the same ethics.

It promotes self drive in work so as to do the best and ensure good performance without constant reminders and supervision.

## **MEDICAL ETHICS OF WORK**

Medical ethics are standards, behaviour and competence expected of all doctors, which is all put in form of an oath which is famously known as the “Hippocratic Oath”, it includes the following.

Doctors are expected to work in the interest of their patients, meaning that the patients should always be heard first in terms of their problems and not their money.

To preserve life and not to destroy it, this means that a doctor is expected to do everything possible under all circumstances to save life even when the patient is showing signs of not surviving.

Proper use of drugs, a doctor should not deliberately administer a drug which can kill anyone because doctors are supposed to save lives and not to take them.

A doctor should never help a woman to carry out abortion. This is because this act is considered as murder and it undermines the objectives of the medical profession.

A doctor should keep confidential the client's secrets so that they don't lose their confidence and trust.

A doctor should not get emotionally involved with his or her client. He/she should not fall in love with the clients therefore doctors are supposed to have a high degree of self control.

Doctors should not advertise themselves or expose their classes in form of being more superior than others like in the media.

A doctor should not conduct euthanasia even if it's a request of the patient or the relatives, because he has to save life. A doctor has no right to determine when a patient will die or whether the patient will live.

Doctors must take saving life as a first priority than thinking about money therefore they should treat all patients equally by giving them attention whether they are rich or poor.

Doctors should be up to date and current. i.e they should keep on researching and reading with hope to cope with the ever evolving nature of diseases.

Doctors must command respect at their places of work and in general public, they should carry out their responsibilities properly, respect people and their equipment.

However, some medical professionals have failed to live up to their expectations in the following ways:

Some doctors help women to carry out abortion in order to get hands which may lead to their death and imprisonment.

Some doctors steal medicine from government hospitals and take it to their private clinics hence causing losses to the government.

Doctors spend a lot of time in their private clinics and leave very many patients unattended to in government hospitals which leads to death of some.

Some medical personnel put money at the forefront meaning that before any medication is given, money has to be paid first which may lead to death of those who do not have money.

Some doctors fall in love with their patients which compromises with their efficiency at work.

## **EUTHANASIA**

This is a Greek word which means mercy killing. It means putting someone to death painlessly after seeing that he/she is undergoing a lot of pain and suffering while that person's death is certain in relation to the pain.

## **REASONS FOR EUTHANASIA.**

It aims at causing gentle death to a person who is undergoing a lot of pain and death is inevitable.

For a person who might soon or later die but at the moment undergoing pain, euthanasia could become a necessity to relive him/her of pain.

Mercy killing helps to reserve money and wealth especially for the orphans that would be wasted on a nearly dead person who has no chance of living after great pain.

Some diseases are contagious in that they spread quickly to the society therefore it is better to kill the sick and save the society.

They argue that if a soldier gets wounded badly in the battle field, such a soldier should be shot by one of the commanders to prevent him from dying in the hands of the enemy because he may give out the army secrets.

They argue that it helps to do away with psychological suffering, frustration on the part of the care takers who endlessly watch their beloved patient groan in pain.

There are some patients who become half dead for a long time when they cannot speak, move and a lot of care and expenditure is needed yet there is no one to give it.

Some people in war torn areas/accidents may lose important body parts like having the intestines hanging out with almost no chance of survival, such a person is saved from such pain by euthanasia.

It saves time that would otherwise have been spent on treating and nursing the patient who has no chance of survival.

## **REASONS WHY CHRISTIANITY IS AGAINST EUTHANASIA.**

It is murder which is against the 10 commandments of God "Don't kill". Under no circumstance would one be allowed to kill even if it is under the disguise of mercy killing.

It is assuming God's role to give and take away life and every person is entitled to the right of life until God takes it away

It ignores the religious aspect of suffering as a way of purification before God even Jesus once suffered "father if it is your will, take this cup of suffering away from me "

It is a symbol of lack of faith in God's power to perform miracles like healing because no one can tell whether He has a plan of bringing a half dead person to life.

The medical oaths demands doctors to save life all time and any doctor that takes away life is unethical and can be expelled from the profession.

Some people can hide their malice and hatred in mercy killing to eliminate important people who would be of value to the society under pretext of sympathy of saving them from pain yet Christianity encourages love for one another.

There are many methods of relieving pain than taking away somebody's life because it shows lack of care, kindness for the sick especially where modern technology can provide better alternatives.

It devalues human life and it makes it so cheap like that of a fly which can be killed anytime therefore accepting euthanasia in the constitution is a bad example because it is evil.

Some patients can ask for mercy killing because they are mentally disturbed as a result of the sickness hitting their brains which distort their mutual reasoning due to great Pain that makes one to lose judgment and hope.

For countries where Euthanasia is legal, it acts as a bad example especially to the children to grow up looking at taking away people's lives as something simple and normal.

People with money corrupted minds can use well death as disguise to kill their innocent parents and other relatives which is murder and condemned by the Ten Commandments.

Mercy killing under for the reason of preserving the would be wasted wealth shows selfishness while Christianity advocates for kindness, love and care.

### ***SAMPLE QUESTIONS***

- Discuss the medical ethics which doctors must follow as they go about with their business.
- Examine the Christian objection to euthanasia in medical practice
- To what extent have medical workers observed the professional ethics?
- Give the problems faced by professionals in Uganda.
- Discuss the role played by the church to help Doctors live by their expectations.

### **TEACHER'S PROFESSIONAL ETHICS.**

These are the rules and regulations expected to be followed by teachers as they carry out their duties and they include;

Teachers should have firsthand knowledge and information of their subject matter. This means that they need to have mastered their content

Teachers should use the best skills possible to impart knowledge i.e they should ensure that their students understand the subject matter through discussions research etc.

A teacher should create a good learning environment which is beneficial to the students and must have class control with a well arranged class.

A teacher should have up to date information about the current issues and can do this by making research in order to update his or her notes

A teacher should contribute to the moral and spiritual growth of the students by guiding and counseling them.

A teacher should punish correctly in order for students to reform but not for causing pain, clear personal anger or relieve a grudge.

They should control their emotions in order to have a healthy relationship with their students whether sorrowful, joyful or painful emotions to avoid shame.

A teacher should be cooperative with fellow staff members so as to work as a team and not look at each other as competitors.

Teachers are expected to treat all students equally without signs of favour and discrimination or bias so to promote learning.

Teachers should always be smart physically and mentally in the society like before students and outside the school to command respect.

Teachers should always be sober so as to appear as good examples to the students for example by avoiding alcoholism.

Teachers should always be a good example to the learners by avoiding all habitual behavior like smoking, pornography, vulgar language and other vices.

Teachers should conduct impartial assessment and evaluation of students so that all learners are judged equally in terms of performance.

Teachers should be trustworthy, honest and loyal in speech, action always before the learners and the general society.

However, some teachers have failed to live up to their expectations in the following ways:

Some teachers get emotionally involved with their students which affects their careers because some of them drop out of school.

Some teachers initiate and encourage students to strike instead of handling hard situations peacefully.

Some teachers are greedy; they get involved in coaching students in order to get money which may tempt them to cheat exams for them.

Some teachers drink a lot of alcohol and become public nuisance which is shameful to the profession.

Some teachers are so emotional; they punish children with the intention of causing harm instead of helping them to reform.

- Examine the professional ethics of the teachers.
- Show the instances that can make teachers fail to observe their professional ethics.
- “Teacher Okello often misses his lessons at school because of personal businesses, as a Christian comment on the actions of Mr. Okello.



- How can the Church help Mr. Okello live professionally?

### **FACTORS FOR THE DECLINE IN WORK ETHICS (CHALLENGES PROFESSIONALS FACE)**

Low wages and delayed payment result into inability to save and make personal developments hence making many professionals lose interest in their work.

Poverty makes people fail to earn a living and therefore do anything within their reach to survive like taking bribes, coaching of students by teachers, doctors carrying out abortion etc.

Lack of self control due to lust forces a professional to get involved in love affairs with clients like Doctors abusing sex because of being exposed naked bodies which is unethical.

Lack of job security forces many workers to amass wealth within a short time through dubious ways like corruption because they are not sure of their stay at work.

Alcoholism and drug addiction impairs the reasoning and judgment of some employees forcing them to behave contrary to their ethics e.g. they fight with others, abuse and use vulgar language.

Decline in religion makes people disregard the values attached to work like honesty therefore they steal because they want to selfishly satisfy their individual goals.

The permissive nature of the society forces professionals to disregard the set rules and regulations and therefore they care less when they abuse the ethics e.g. doctors who swore to save life may go on strike leaving patients to die.

The poor working relationship between the employers and employees creates a big gap making the workers to misbehave like striking, stealing, dodging work etc.

Scarcity of equipment to use while working can make the professionals fail to deliver a good service like Doctors who lack medicine, surgical tools etc.

The poor working conditions like denial of fringe benefits, accommodation, poor feeding, etc which makes them to incur personal expenditure while at work leading them into limited savings and consequently hate work.

Low attitude towards ones' profession, when one got all the qualifications being forced by parents or performance in former school which pushed him or her into a profession that was not the desired dream.

## **HOW THE BIBLE TEACHING CAN HELP PROFESSIONALS DEAL WITH PROFESSIONAL CHALLENGES.**

Professionals should involve in other income generating projects in order to survive just as St. Paul involved in making tents to improve on his income and that of the church to supplement on his work of preaching the gospel (Acts18:3).

Professionals should have self control over their bodily desires which would lead them into sexual immorality because self control is a virtue encouraged by St. Paul.

Christians should be faithful at work by abiding by the Ten Commandments especially one condemning stealing and coveting other people's property.

They should endure suffering while working just as the Israelites prayed to God and endured while working as slaves in Egypt and finally God came to their rescue through Moses.

They should pray to God amidst suffering and exploitation just as many Biblical personalities are seen to have called upon God in their work like King who prayed to God for wisdom to do his work well.

They should work for heavenly rewards which are everlasting instead of working for earthly rewards which perish as the Bible tells to save in heaven where there is no rust and moths.

They should respect life and protect it because it is a gift from God and murder is a sin condemned since Cain was punished for killing his brother Abel because of work.

Christians should work to offer charity to those in need even when they cannot pay for the services instead of striking just as Barnabas sold his field and gave money to the Apostles. (Acts4:32-37).

Christians should abide by the set regulations of the profession in order to bring glory to God at work. Jesus respected the laws of his time when he said "give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and God what belongs to God".

Professional should invest their money carefully in order to accumulate interest as taught in the parable of talents.

Hard work is emphasized in the book of proverbs if professional want to receive good earning and become rich.

The bible calls for the Spirit of brotherhood in work hence advising professional to observe good interpersonal relationships at the place of work.

Professionals are called upon to be submissive to their bosses at work since St. Peter advised workers to submit to both harsh and kind masters.

## **LABOUR RELATIONS.**

This is the behaviour, understanding, and co-operation between employers and employees in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

It is important to find ways of harmonizing the relationship between employers and employees and this can be done if they both know their duties and rights.

## **THE RIGHTS OF THE EMPLOYER.**

An employer has the right to receive a fair day's work for a fair day's pay from the employee as stated in the contract.

The employer has a right to enjoy co-operation of employees. This means that the employees must abide by the rules of their employer or they must respond positively to his instructions.

The employer has a right to form any association with other employers as long as he/she is after the goal that benefits the company like schools paying teachers through the banks.

The employer has a right to conduct any business as long as the available resources make it possible without any due interference from the employees.

The employer has a right to get any employee in case of any need in order to get more labour force, more efficiency in the company and to ensure progress of the company.

The employer has a right to enjoy some reasonable profits in the company since all businesses survive on profits and no employee should interfere.

The employer has a right to know the details of his employees which include the health status, marital status, nationality etc in order to place the right person in the right places of work.

## **DUTIES OF THE EMPLOYER.**

The employer has a duty to pay a fair day's wage to the employees for a fair day's work as stated in the formal contract of work.

The employer has the duty to respect the human dignity of the employees in terms of working conditions like giving them holidays, materials to use while working etc.

The employer has a duty to conduct business effectively not for his own benefit as an employer but for the benefit of the public and the employees as well therefore, employers should consult the employees as far as running of the business is concerned.

The employer has a duty to exercise justice and good will towards employees by assisting them in problems of old age, sickness and terminal benefits.

It is the duty of the employers to share reasonable percentage of profits with employees so that they don't look greedy because employees also play a very important role in raising the profits.

Employers have a duty of encouraging ownership of the business with the employees by allowing them to have some shares to make them feel that they are part of the business.

Employers have the duty of paying all debts and obligations of the company in time and accordingly like salaries of the employees, taxes to the government etc.

## **RIGHTS OF THE EMPLOYEES.**

It is a right of the employee to receive a fair day's wage/salary for a fair day's work from the employer.

To receive fair work load that is within reasonable limits in regards to time, weight, and area of operation.

To join any trade union or political party regardless of the boss' side of interest.

To enjoy job security where they should receive all the benefits as per the contract of work and if there is any problem that may lead to termination of work, warning must be given of not less than three months in advance from the employer.

A right to annual leave, public holidays and other fringe benefits.

## **DUTIES OF THE EMPLOYEES.**

It is the duty of the employee to give a fair day's work to the employer for a fair day's wage.

To be honest and to observe the terms of work without any sign of laziness, shyness or disrespect.

To show respect and goodwill to fellow workers, company and all bosses at all levels of management.

To seek personal fulfilment in work than just working under supervision all the time because a worker should work under minimum supervision.

To work hard regardless of the payment, promotion, etc.

To be loyal to their bosses by being obedient, submissive and answerable at all times in order to be reliable in production.

To handle the employer's property with care such as the working equipment, company cars, premises so as to minimize company losses.

## ***SAMPLE QUESTIONS***

**1a). Discuss the duties and rights of employers.**

**b). Using the Bible teaching, show how an employee can enjoy work. ( Biblical teaching about work).**

**2). Discuss the duties and rights of employers.**

## **FORMS OF LABOUR EXPLOITATION.**

Labour exploitation is where employees provide labour but are unfairly treated by the employers.

Forms of labour exploitation include the following;

Low payment where employees are given little money which can't help them to buy the basic needs of life, or paying of workers money which is below the agreed amount according to the terms of the contract.

Long working hours given to the workers which make them spend little time with their families and they end up not enjoying their work.

Unfair dismissal without clear reasons. An employee should be warned before he/she is dismissed, and should be given a chance to defend him/herself.

Sexual harassment by the bosses which mostly affects female workers who are forced to give in to the sexual advances of the bosses in order to be promoted, given salary increment etc

Delayed payment where some bosses take months before paying their workers which affects their budgeting since they can't afford the basic necessities of life.

Discrimination at work places that can be according to tribe, age, sex which can make some people lose favours like promotion, salary increment if they don't fall in one of the categories.

Overworking the workers which denies them time to rest, at the same time some work is very hard and may make the workers very tired or unhealthy.

Child labour involves using minors to carry out different roles and some of them are not paid because of their low bargaining power.

Abnormal supervision by bosses which denies work free interaction, freedom and confidence because they ever on tension of the boss's watchful eye or spies.

Intentional denial of promotions where they are due with a major reason to keep workers at low payments but doing a lot work.

Unfair contracts of work where professional are tied up by terms of work that deny any chances of working outside such companies that would give them better offers like salaries.

## **CAUSES OF EXPLOITATION.**

Low education levels on the part of the workers makes them to be at the mercy of the employer who may take advantage of their illiteracy and pay them little money.

Greed for money forces the employers to pay little money to their employees because they want to get abnormal profits.

Low bargaining power of the employees makes the employers to give them little money. This is because of the big gap that exists between the employers and employees which causes fear and the employees can't freely to talk about the poor working conditions at work.

The high level of unemployment makes some workers to be exploited because they fear to lose their jobs if they complain about the poor working conditions.

Poverty makes people to work in unpleasant conditions because they want money for survival, some may be given work which they never studied for because they want to overcome poverty.

Tribalism makes one to favour his tribe mates and ignore other employees from other tribes in terms of salary increment, promotions etc.

Indecent dressing of some ladies makes them expose their body parts to the employers who can be sexually aroused and attempted to ask for sex from them.

Failure of the government to set a minimum wage makes the employers decide how much to give their employees and since most of them are interested in profit maximization, they will pay little salaries.

Lack of strong trade unions which can collectively bargain for workers since individual employees find it hard to bargain for better working conditions.

Low religious conviction makes the employers to exploit the employees without putting into consideration that Deut24 calls upon employers to pay their employees in time.

Ignorance of the workers about their rights makes them victims of unfair terms of work or contract with limited knowledge of where to get assistance.

## **BIBLICAL TEACHING ABOUT LABOUR RELATIONS.**

Workers should be paid by their employers in time because untimely payment of salaries and wages is bad; it is a sin against God since it causes conflicts in labour relations. Deut24:14.

Employers should give their workers time to rest in order to regain the lost energy, since even God himself rested after creating the universe and so there should be a balance between work and leisure.

According to the book of Gen, a woman was created to help the man, the two should be co-workers therefore, there should be support between employers and employees at work.

God sent Moses to rescue the Israelites from Egypt whose labour relations were bad. In Exodus, the Israelites were exposed to forced labour by the Egyptians until they cried to God for rescue. Exodus 3:7-10.

Workers should be honest when doing the work given to them, the story of the tenants in the vineyard shows that the dishonest tenants killed the owner's son and took possession of the vineyard.

There should be justice between employers and employees because exploitation of workers was condemned by prophet Amos.

The employees should submit themselves to the employers because according to St. Peter, servants should be submissive to their masters by doing the duties given to them well. 1 Peter 2:18.

Workers should show complete respect to their employers. According to St. Peter, they are called upon to respect both kind and harsh masters.

Prophets like Isaiah, proclaimed judgment upon all who deprive workers of their rights and privileges. Isaiah 5:8.

The hard working people should always be recognized and promoted to higher ranks and greater positions as King Solomon promoted Jeroboam because his hard work and commitment according to 1 Kings 11:28.

**SAMPLE QUESTION;**

- 1a) Account for the rampant exploitation of workers in Uganda today
- b) Explain the Biblical teaching about exploitation of workers.
- 2.) Examine the forms of exploitation of workers today.