IMPACT OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP ON INTEGRAL MISSION IN THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF RWANDA (ADEPR): A CASE STUDY OF KICUKIRO LOCAL CHURCH

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ABSTRACT

This study was an investigation of the impact of servant leadership on integral mission in the Pentecostal Church of Rwanda (ADEPR), Kicukiro local Church. Servant leaders' understanding of Church integral mission and their leadership qualities as well as servant leadership challenges to fulfill the integral mission of the church were at the core of the study. The research was guided by three specific objectives: First, to assess ADEPR Kicukiro local church's leadership's knowledge, understanding and application of the integral mission; second, to determine the qualities of church servant leadership needed to carry out the integral mission; and finally, to identify challenges facing the church servant leadership in ADEPR Kicukiro in their endeavor to fulfill the integral mission. Spiritual and community transformation as well as theological foundations of integral mission were extensively studied in the review of existing literature. The research, of qualitative nature, was carried out using survey methods. Interviews were administered to a sample of fourteen church leaders in a population of forty-two church leaders. This sample included the senior pastor, 3 parish pastors, 5 elders, 3 evangelists and 2 deacons. Data analysis was done using Nvivo10. The research findings revealed that thirteen out of fourteen interviewees felt that integral mission was a pressing need for the church and proposed ministry strategies that could be applied by their church servant leadership to promote a sound integral mission framework in the church. Throughout the process of this study, the majority of respondents recognized the lack of a well-planned contemporary evangelistic method and the integration of relevant socioeconomic income generating activities with evangelism, which could promote the betterment of its membership. This was due to the presence of hindrances linked to the lack of servant leaders' knowledge and their misunderstanding of the practice of integral mission in the Church. The study recommended the need for further research which could evaluate servant leadership principles and qualities as well as their challenges. Such as study could enhance capacity building within an integral mission setting. This would promote a relevant contemporary integral mission of the church of ADEPR.