

Introduction to 7 Mountain-Sphere Strategy

It is critical to the fulfillment of your purpose and destiny to identify the mountain-sphere you are called and designed for. I am passionate about helping people on this discovery process because your destiny is intertwined with the fulfillment of my call. Our destinies are intertwined in a beautiful tapestry of Kingdom inheritance.

One thing I have noticed, coaching numerous people over the years, is that many people struggle to identify the mountain-sphere they are called to, or they mistakingly think that their current job must be their ultimate destiny. They are often wrong and left frustrated.

Why is this so important? Because, if you do not have the right target your arrow will never hit your destiny. We are entering into an era where our focus needs to be intentionally honed in and defined. I want you to be able to say, "I have done the work you set for me to do." and hear the response, "Well done".

We can't say, and won't hear, those words if we did a good job doing something we were never designed for, on the wrong mountain-sphere than what we were called to.

Would your boss say, "Well done!" if you were hired to do bookkeeping, but instead you did an excellent job on daily janitorial services, yet the bookkeeping never was completed?

x
Melissa McGreary



Understanding the 7 Mountain-Sphere Strategy

Before we get into discovering WHAT mountain-sphere you are called to, you need to understand WHAT those spheres are and how they operate.

Let's begin by setting definitions:

Sphere of Influence - a field or area in which an individual or organization has power to affect events and developments, although it may have no formal authority

Mountain - an elevated portion of the earth

We will be using this term as it correlates in scripture with 'high places'.

Culture - the customs, arts, social institutions, and achievements of a particular nation, people, or other social group.

Reformation - the action or process of reforming an institution or practice.

Kingdom - A country, state, or territory ruled by a king or queen. The spiritual reign or authority of God.

Bible Study Challenge:

Throughout scripture, Jesus spoke of the kingdom and, believe it or not, eluding to this strategy.

My heart is to expose you to the Truths and then for you to search out the matter, as a King (proverbs 25:2), and get your own personal experience of revelation around this.

Understanding the 7 Mountain-Sphere Strategy

What is the 'Challenge'?

Go buy an extra bible and go through it, highlighting everywhere this strategy is referenced, including the words and concepts of the Kingdom, spheres of influence, mountains, culture/yeast, reformation, etc.

You will then begin to understand the nature of the 7 Mountain-sphere strategy, what it is and what it is not, and therefore begin to further understand the nature of The King.

For approximately 35 years I have been passionate about praying "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done"...and meaning it. And this strategy, for me, is the 'how' behind that prayer.

It should be fairly simple to surmise that it is God's will for His Kingdom – the 'dominion of the King' – to not simply be expressed in Heaven, but also on earth.

But without a thorough understanding of what The Kingdom is we will often try to form a type of kingdom, based on the systems of this world. This is where religion has often gone wrong in trying to reform culture. I will give a brief review of this in the reformation history section of this booklet.

What I love about the Kingdom is that we have the opportunity to model our life after The King; re-presenting Jesus to the world AS KING. We are given the honor and privilege of preparing the world for what it will be like to experience The King as their sovereign Lord.

We know that Jesus is the greatest of all servant leaders, and the culture He created around Him was one of an open heaven. There was nothing held back from the son *and He carried solutions into every atmosphere He entered*. He modeled servanthood, sonship, friend and brother, confident leadership, true humility, and power, embracing everyone who would embrace Him.

Understanding the 7 Mountain-Sphere Strategy

So, what does that mean for us?

We must first acknowledge that the 7 mountain-sphere strategy is NOT a religious doctrine, but a strategy for cultural reformation. This is not something created by religious zealots trying to dominate the world, as many heresy hunters have implored their followers to believe.

This strategy has been expressed throughout humanity with or without an intentional 'strategy' placed around it. It simply is.

In the following chapter, you will get to read a brief accounting of the study of cultural reformation from the middle ages.

Unfortunately, we have seen those with ill-intention understand and employ this knowledge better and more consistently than Christians. We also see past religious reformations create more oppression and less freedom, similar to those with ill political and economic intentions.

As Christ-followers and Kingdom representatives it is a strategy that can assist us, not in creating domination by religious systems, but to become the yeast of Kingdom values inserted into the world-systems for everyone to benefit by the Kingdom principles employed.

Social historians have identified the areas of culture that tend to influence the beliefs and convictions of the population, which in turn greatly impacts the decisions being made, and therefore the outcome. This is how culture is 'formed and developed'.

Please note, even though there are 7 predominant spheres of influence, not all spheres will be impacting culture equally in any given era. What I would like you to pay attention to, in the social history chapter, is how these 7 spheres have expressed their influence throughout history, and how they are expressing their influence today; Religion, Family, Economy, Government, Education, Arts & Entertainment, Media.

Understanding the 7 Mountain-Sphere Strategy

The bottom line to cultural reformation is that those that are making the decisions, that affect culture and your life, are typically those that have the most wealth and power. You will hear people referring to them as the leaders on top of the mountains, or those at the gates of influence. Whatever the language is, know that these people have always been considered the elite class. Even as the middle and upper-middle classes developed, the elite class has ruled.

In our current day we can see how the elite class is still ruling and influencing all 7 spheres. They are the ones owning/ruling/running the world systems and collaborating in order to form culture and control the other classes.

But, before you give up on the notion of Kingdom reformation, know that you do not have to be one of the elites in order to bring about change. Throughout scripture, we see how those that were lowly actually had *favor* upon their life to have the ear of secular Kings, influencing them and changing the culture of their nation.

The 7 mountain-sphere Kingdom strategy, is to infiltrate all of these systems with Kingdom values and principles, not to rule them. We have seen the world-system model in past reformations, but the Kingdom model is to serve these systems as leaders so that they begin to look and operate the way the Kingdom does.

The 7 mountain-sphere Kingdom strategy is about being the carriers of solutions to every sphere of influence. These solutions are heavenly inspired downloads, so that they're implementation on earth reforms those systems in order to look more like the Kingdom of Heaven.

A true Kingdom movement is a servant leadership movement, where everyone in our sphere benefits, not just the elite or the religious. High tides rise ALL boats.

I don't know about you, but the idea of cultural reformation that benefits all areas of society sounds heavenly....oh wait...it is!

The History Of Cultural Reformation

So that you can be armed with knowledge and dispell the accusations that this strategy is some modern doctrine created by religious heretics, you need to understand this concept is not one created in the modern age, but it has been happening ever since two people graced this planet and began creating a culture.

A Brief History:

Historians have documented cultural-formation research all the way back to the middle ages, studying major themes through to modern day cultures. What they found was the reformation of popular culture refers to the combination of social, political, economic, technological, cultural, and psychological changes that established the disciplining of the body, emotions, and cognition as a desired social norm.

(please note that religion and 'elites' predominantly formed culture during this period)

A hallmark of the reform process is the gradual withdrawal of elites from their former participation in customs of popular culture. Historians have emphasized, that as elites increasingly gained more wealth and power, they began to oppose freedoms that lead to the oppression of the common populations. These actions by the ruling elites lead to revolutions, wars, and depressions. This also lead to civil violence between the religious groups and popular culture regarding the public celebrations of what was considered sacred.

This, in turn, lead to governmental involvement in the regulation of a new moral authority, intervening in religious lives more systematically. Eventually this created a more systematic and uniform language and morality. What was tolerated in public and private became more delineated and controlled by patriarchal norms of religious and governmental authorities.

(please note how government now partnered with religion and 'elites' to form and enforce culture during this period)

The History Of Cultural Reformation

What began as a culture being formed around religious norms was then enforced by governmental rule. This led to new institutions being formed to reshape the behavior of all classes through education, economic relief for the poor and stricter periods of enforced labor.

(please note how government now formed education to partner with religion and 'elites' to educate, form and enforce culture during this period)

More modern methods of cultural reformation, or transformation, is noticeable from the eighteenth century forward, when more capitalist relations of production, a decline of Christian cultural values, and political upheavals further transforming authority relations.

(please note how business and economy entered the scene through production and partnered with the 'elites', beginning to compete with the religious values and effecting governmental rule to influence culture during this period)

More long-term structural processes of change, including the shift from oral to print culture, industrialization, and the emergence of a class society, were involved. Such changes made culture a commodity, and this altered the possibilities for the production of culture itself as an intentional strategy.

(please note how media entered the scene, partnering with business, economy, and education that influenced the 'elites' to influence culture during this period)

Social historians have found the concept of hegemony particularly useful in discussing reformation of popular culture. Hegemony is an elite-class leadership with the power to define the norms of public order, to determine the content of what constitutes knowledge and rational behavior, and the ability to control the dominant symbols and ritual practices of a society. Hence, the elites' ongoing efforts to assert and maintain their cultural leadership throughout history. This also points to popular culture as a changing set of practices, dependent on the elite preferences of the era, rather than a set of static behaviors.

The History Of Cultural Reformation

A persistent Christian moralizing ethic has played a significant and ongoing role in the reformation of popular culture simply because it was something held in value by the ruling elite class. At different times through history even secular elites and the state successfully adapted these values around religiously motivated reformation, but it never produced a truly 'kingdom driven' culture.

As we entered the industrial era the working class began to form associations to compete with the ability of the church, state, and social elites to dominate popular culture. This helped to create a distinct social identity as middle class. The elevation of middle-class norms and morality had decisive effects on the reformation of popular culture in the nineteenth century.

The success of the middle-class and upper-middle-class demands for political participation, especially from the 1830s onward, expressed a social and cultural identity distinct from that of traditional elites and that of the growing working class. The success of these demands promoted middle-class leadership and increased supervision of the morality of the growing working class.
(please note how the middle-class entered the scene powerfully. They began to impact systems because of their need in the economy. They also carried with them a more socio-economic welfare agenda for 'the common people')

Although I did not specifically mention the mountain-sphere of Arts & Entertainment, it has always been expressed in the form of 'celebrations' throughout history. The arts both reflect life, as well as life imitates art. Modern elites have equally infiltrated this mountain-sphere so that culture is not just reflected in art but imitating it.

I hope this very brief overview helps you identify how the historical evolution of cultural reformation has lead us to where we are today, and the current identification of influential spheres.

Discovering Your Mountain-Sphere

The following pages are brief outlines to help you to understand what each mountain-sphere is. I pray that, as you begin to read them, one of them resonates more than the others. What I often find is it can be easier to discover what your *call* is by taking a look at what drives you crazy, makes you mad, or brings you to tears.

Then you will begin to discover the HOW and WHERE, which may be on a different mountain-sphere.

For example, my primary mission is to the **Religion-sphere**. Many people wrongly believe that means I hold one of the 5-fold offices within a church. The reality is only around 2% of the people called to that sphere actually stand behind the pulpit. Similarly, not everyone in the economy-sphere is a c-level executive. I operate as an **educational** innovator and reformer. I am called to instruct & equip the saints, helping to renew their minds to the Truth of the Kingdom; evangelizing them out of the religious system and into the Kingdom. My focus is to rebuild the **family** to align with God's original intent and design. My position to fulfill this mission is located in the **business-sphere**, as I run an LLC to create the educational content for Kingdom purposes.

I am CALLED to the RELIGION sphere, to instruct and equip the saints to infiltrate all spheres.

I OPERATE as an educator, innovator and reformer.

I AFFECT the FAMILY sphere.

I do this FROM the BUSINESS sphere.



1 Business & Economy *Sphere*

Original Intent: Wealth

Steward: Economies

Purpose: Generating & Distributing Wealth

Producing: Provision & Potential

Destroying: Poverty

The ability to create and sustain wealth through ingenuity, enterprise, creativity and effort and is a God-given gift and a universal impulse. The markets and economic systems that emerge whenever people are free to pursue buying and selling become the lifeblood of a nation. This includes anything from farms to small businesses to large corporations.

Of course this realm is prone to corruption through idolatry, greed and covetousness. In response, the Church must embrace its responsibility to train up those who are called into the marketplace to create, develop, manage & sustain businesses and provide leadership with integrity and honesty. We believe it is the Lord's will to make his people prosperous and that He desires for His Church to use its wealth to finance the work of Kingdom expansion. Simply put: Prosperity with a purpose.



2 Arts & Entertainments *Sphere*

Original Intent: Pleasure

Steward: Creativity

Purpose: Suspending Reality

Producing: Rest & Re-creation

Destroying: Toil

This mountain is also considered the mountain of celebration as a form of rest and rejuvenation, but it has predominantly turned more into 'entertainment'.

As we see the reformation of this mountain from celebration to entertainment - it still remains within it's original design and covenant. Therefore what it produces is what is 'celebrated' in a society.

In this mountain we find some of the most influential forces shaping our society. Music, filmmaking, television, social media, and the performing arts drive the cultural tastes, values and standards of a nation's citizens, particularly its youth. With a heavy reliance on the strong appeal of sex, drugs and alcohol, the arts and entertainment industries wield significant influence.

The body of Christ needs powerful, righteous men and women who are not afraid to take their God-given talent into the arts and entertainment arenas, bringing reformation back to what we are celebrating. We need people ready to further His original design for this mountain, while impacting those who are lost in darkness and would not otherwise be interested in any kind of Christian-value message in traditional forms.



3 Media Sphere

Original Intent: Truth

Steward: Transparency

Purpose: Presenting Reality

Producing: Free Will

Destroying: Deception

The media mountain includes news sources such as radio, TV news stations, newspapers, Internet news and opinion (social media/podcast/blog/vlog) sites, etc. The media has the potential to sway popular opinion on current issues based upon its reporting, which is not always truthful or accurate.

We can see how media is used as a tool of powerful persuasion in the modern application of mass division within our nation and world. What we have to also recognize is how this is a repeat in history. The same tactic was used by the Nazi regime, which is outlined in Hitler's Mein Kampf as 'The Big Lie'.

The Big Lie was a gross distortion of the truth used especially as a propaganda technique. The term, used by Hitler, described the use of a lie so colossal that no one would believe that someone "could have the impudence to distort the truth so infamously."



3 Media Sphere

Hitler claimed the technique was used by Jews to blame Germany's loss in WWII on one of their German generals. However, even that was part of 'the big lie'. As studies show the Nazis used the idea of the original big lie to turn sentiment against Jews and bring about the holocaust, turning long-standing antisemitism in Europe into a justification for mass murder. Hitler used this propaganda to depict Germany as an innocent, besieged land striking back at the Jews who were being blamed for starting WWI.

The Big Lie repeatedly claimed that Jews held power behind the scenes in Britain, Russia and the U.S. and that the Jews agenda was to begin a war of extermination against Germany. This was used as a way to assert that Germany had a right to defend herself and annihilate the Jews in self-defense.



4 Government Sphere

Original Intent: protection
Steward: rights of humanity
Purpose: sustaining liberty
Producing: safety & security
Destroying: corruption

Proverbs 14:34 states that, "righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Many times, as exemplified in the Old Testament, a nation's moral standards are dependent on those exhibited by its governmental and spiritual leaders. While each individual is responsible for his or her own sins; the fact remains that people are greatly influenced by the morals, principles and core values (or lack thereof) that popular leaders adopt.

The current anti-america agenda, has been seeded by those that desire this democratic republic to be torn down and replaced with a socialist/communist/marxist state. There is a multi-pronged approach by financial elitists (business), infiltrating both our education system as well as arts & entertainment in order to make significant gains in the political arena over the past few decades. This agenda seeks to remove anything related to God or Christianity from the governmental and educational systems because of a misapplied interpretation of the phrase, "separation of church and state." We must see a shift in this arena in order to preserve the biblical worldview that America was founded upon. The goal is to put in place righteous political leaders that will positively affect all aspects of government.



5 Education Sphere

Original Intent: knowledge/wisdom/understanding

Steward: ability to think for themselves

Purpose: preparing for promotion

Producing: realized potential

Destroying: ignorance

God is the author of education. We literally see it as he walked every day with Adam and continued His journey throughout scripture. He loves wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

At one time the education system of America unapologetically incorporated a Biblical worldview in every aspect of school life. Not coincidentally, this system produced a people that produced the most powerful and prosperous nation the earth has ever seen.

Now, the children of our nation are inundated with liberal ideologies, atheistic teaching and postmodern humanistic principles in our public schools and in most universities. Put simply; they are being indoctrinated with often false, biased and anti-biblical information.

A re-introduction of biblical truth and Christ-centric values is the key to educational reformation and restoration in America's failing educational system.



6 Family Sphere

Original Intent: Relational Connection – bringing orphans into sonship

Steward: People

Purpose: Loving & Championing

Producing: Peace & Joy

Destroying: Fear

"As the family goes, so goes the nation"

In any healthy society, the family is the “building block” of the community. Family was the first thing birthed in the heart of God. He wanted family, so he first provided for them – and then created them.

Nothing has changed. Throughout the Bible, you will find familial examples that portray how we ought to live our lives today.

The family has fallen victim to constant and prolonged attack. Today, the assailants of fatherlessness, divorce, abuse, pornography, sexual perversions and other negative influences that have brought great dysfunction to American life. God is calling fathers and mothers (both spiritual and biological) to bring order to the chaos that the enemy has unleashed against families in America. He also wants to bring healing to marriages and relationships within families in order to maintain a moral foundation for children in the future to stand upon.



7 Religion Sphere

Original Intent: Kingdom Advancement

Steward: 5-Fold Graces

Purpose: Equipping & Building

Producing: Effective Saints

Destroying: Bondage

Every society has some type of belief in a superior being or beings. In the east, religions tend to be polytheistic or idolatrous. Although these religions are thousands of years old, they nonetheless continue to thrive today. In the west, Christianity and Catholicism are predominant, but postmodern humanistic views are increasingly being accepted and the concept of God is being rejected.

The Christian Church is described in the Greek language as the ecclesia. Literally translated, the word ecclesia means "governing body." With this we must then understand what it means to 'govern'. First off, as the body of Christ we have to acknowledge that our government is on His shoulders, so the foundations has to be Christ-like. This leads us into what is called servant leadership. This is also seen in the word 'minister' which actually is a term meaning to lead and administer service.

This is not about installing a theocracy. With this current understanding it does suggest that the Church should have be servant leaders with great influence in all spheres that make up a society.

