

Summary of Responses to the Theme “Social Dynamics”

Question 1: What is the role and place of the church in Mangochi in responding to the crisis of Social Dynamics?

- The church's role should begin with **gaining trust** within the community.
- The church should demonstrate **love, care, and support** towards individuals and the broader community.
- It was emphasised that this should happen not just within the church building but also **out in the community** through initiatives like prayer houses or home sales.

Question 2: What are three practical steps that the church in Malawi can take to respond to the Social Dynamics?

1. **Identify the needs** within the community to understand where assistance is most required.
2. **Plan and implement** strategies to meet these needs.
3. **Assess the effectiveness** of these strategies and communicate the outcomes to the broader church community in Malawi to ensure that the plans are impactful and relevant.

Question 3: What are three practical steps that your church community can take to respond to the crisis of Social Dynamics?

1. **Establish systems or structures** within the church, such as men’s, women’s, and youth ministries, to cater to different groups' specific needs.
2. **Share responsibilities** within the church, ensuring that there are designated individuals, like marriage counsellors or welfare officers, to handle specific social issues.
3. **Equip the church with communication and social skills**, which involves a continuous process of training and empowering members to effectively address social dynamics in the community.

This summary reflects the participants' emphasis on building trust, planning strategically, and equipping the church to respond effectively to the social dynamics and challenges within their communities.

