

Prayer & Fasting Day Feedback: Elders Council

The Elders council met on 9 May 2007 to pray through and discern the journal from the day of prayer and fasting; feedback leading up to and from the day; prayers from the corporate prayer time; and things shared in the worship service of 29 April. The following is a summary of what we believe God revealed to us through this time.

NationsHeart is a place of healing.

a. Rest in this call

- There was an affirmation of the preciousness of the road taken to date to pursue this call.
- Part of the journey of continuing in this call is spending time **'being'**;
 - There was a renewed challenge to each person to get their spiritual lives in order
 - There was a recognition that God has placed on our hearts His message of healing – it is **who we are**, it is what we do
- For this to continue to be seen we need to be willing to be **vulnerable**.

b. Release what is needed to see this calling furthered

- This is the **beginning of a new era** at NationsHeart.
 - We are no longer in 'care-taker' mode
 - God is asking us to take **a big step of faith** – he asks us – 'What do you want to do?', 'What are you going to trust me for?'
 - We will need to be **risk-takers**
 - These are times of faith like the days when the people of our church pursued the call of mission and built the church building in Belconnen
- It is also a time to **let go**
 - Let go of the **'storehouse'** of finances and other less tangible that we cling to tightly – **trust them to God**
 - A letting go will also facilitate a **generational change** in those carrying the future responsibility for NationsHeart – a time to appreciate and embrace each other as grandparents and parents

c. God will be faithful

- We can become **grace-sufficient** – it is abundant and lavish – we don't need to be afraid
 - *An example of this is that our finances went from a \$6100 YTD deficit at the end of March to only a \$400 deficit at the end of April.*
 - *Another example was the prayer points from the ministry areas already functioning at NationsHeart – so many things that we are already doing.*
- God will give us **boundaries** to take risks within
- It is His **wisdom** we will pursue

Some action points – what will we do with what God has said to us?

Personal response

- 'Be' what God has called you to be; spend the time needed with God so you can be confident that you are 'doing' what he has called you to 'be'.
- Don't simply hold on to what God shared or revealed through this day of prayer and fasting but move on – see where God takes you now after the mountain top experience.

The prayer points from the day regarding the ministry areas of NationsHeart are available. If you want your own copy, Pat is able to email it to you.

Naomi is preparing a Gallery of Ministries for display in the entrance foyer. This will help enable people to visualise the breadth of ministry that NationsHeart is involved in.

Deliberately pursue the healing calling of NationsHeart.

The Ministry Team is going to begin developing a 10 year vision for the church.

Release and God's faithfulness

Work is being done within the Ministry Team, Eldership Council and Management Team on the structure and function of the church governance. This is part of the established boundaries that God gives us to take risks within.

The budget for 07/08 is currently being worked on. The Finance Team and Executive will look at how to shape this so that it is projecting into the future with faith.

Many ministry areas are being further focused or developed at the moment. These include:

- Pastoral care ministry
- Men's ministry
- Women's ministry
- Lifekeys – beginning with the Marriage Course in Term 3.

Prayer

The Elders Council are planning further days of prayer and fasting in the year.

The Ministry Team is looking at providing more opportunities for set aside prayer and journeys of prayer.

Elders Council
May 2007