

PASTORAL TRAINERS DECLARATION

October 2010

Cape Town, South Africa

In the spirit of the Lausanne Movement, we pastoral trainers at Cape Town 2010, declare our renewed commitment to the training, forming and strengthening of pastors for Christ's Church.

Strategic Assumptions in Pastoral Training

- The local church is God's primary instrument on the earth for implementing the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- The Ascended Messiah has given pastors and teachers to shepherd His Church to growth and health.
- While set in the broad context of leadership development, pastoral training is uniquely related to local church ministry.
- The rapid growth of the Christian Faith especially in Asia, Africa and Latin America requires pastors who faithfully fulfill the demanding responsibilities of local church ministry.
- Massive numbers of pastoral leaders have been called, gifted and placed by the Holy Spirit in their congregations, but lack skills, tools and relationships for ministry.

Ministry Affirmations in Pastoral Training

- Local pastors provide a formidable labor force for obeying Christ's final commission worldwide.
- The spiritual health of the local church depends on the health of the pastoral leader.
- Formal and non-formal training play strategic roles in specific ways to address pastoral and church health needs, especially where Christ's Church is growing.
- The non-formal training of pastors needs the depth and quality of formally trained pastoral trainers.
- The formal training of pastors cannot keep up with the breadth and quantity of large numbers of untrained pastors.
- The long-term usefulness of pastors calls for both formal and non-formal delivery mechanisms to enrich their ministry effectiveness.

Declaration

Since the formal and non-formal sectors of pastoral training have knowingly and unknowingly allowed ourselves to be divided in heart and efforts, we declare together that we shall endeavor to build trust, involve each other, and leverage the strengths of each sector to prepare maturing shepherds for the proclamation of God's Word and the building up of Christ's Church in all the nations of the world.