

# **South Pacific Transformation Gathering report** 13-15 August 2015

This was the inaugural gathering in the South Pacific Region in alignment with Transform World globally.

There were around 65 leaders from Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon islands who come together over the three days.

The theme of the gathering was "transformation from a heart of devotion" and included times each day of extended worship and/or various creative exercises to help people listen to and hear from God. In addition there was a prayer and worship "furnace" on the second night which went into the early hours of the morning where people could pour their heart out before God. The desire of this devotional approach was both to give glory to God as he deserves it and for people to hear from God for divine strategies in their areas of influence.

In addition there was a strong emphasis on forming relationships between participants particularly given that this was the first gathering of its type in the South Pacific.

There were a series of 10 workshops that were run at the gathering as follows. While time was quite limited some sample outcomes are provided below:

## 4-14 window

A key outcome was the exploration of organising a gathering of Aboriginal people and the Pacific nations focused around the children

## Arts

Matters discussed in this track were if lovers of Jesus had influence in our nations arts and media what would TV, film theatre, music, fashion, galleries and churches look like. Also how can/does the church engage with culture shapers?

A key outcome of the arts track was the partnering between prayer warriors and artists. Other matters covered was the concepts of a church adopting an artist and the need for discipling artists.

#### **Business**

# What is happening?

Entrepreneurship is on the rise- release of divine revelation to both Christians and non Christian Revelation of Business as Family- mirroring Government of the Church is Family

There is a huge shaking in the marketplace. Two contrasts a) business ruled by fear and control, b) rising up of Gods new economy

In the shaking that is to come-don't look at the stuff coming out of the kingdom of darkness. Look at what God is saying, stop and wait on him every step of the way

# Core outcomes

Marketplace partnering relationally with the church and intercessors (house of prayer leaders) Its time for this this- work in love and humility and serve one another and recognise the grace on one another. This is such a big deal and many business owners do not feel supported by church leadership.

### Church

Discussion was held re the ongoing development of organic unity in cities and regions and how than impacted local communities. The need to have churches and ministries engaging their local communities was emphasised.

# **Education**

Discussion focused around the issues of:

- what is Christian curriculum and
- the need to teach from a Christian worldview rather than just call education Christian in name only.

The group also looked at the issue of Christian education opportunities in the public school system.

# Healthcare

Particular areas of focus were:

Aboriginal health care. -There was a time of repentance regarding some hospitals refusing to see Aboriginal people or neglecting their care and then determining the cause of death as neglect of the

Mental health care - there is a great need here and in aged care for compassionate care to be restored; also for healing and deliverance to flow.

## **Justice**

Discussion centred around the current problems facing the Justice domain – the varying issues facing persecuted Christians, refugees and asylum seekers, the reality of human trafficking in our world today, the injustice of organ harvesting and the threat to our religious freedoms globally as a Christian community.

We asked the big questions: How do we extend dignity, worth and value to all persons? How do we tackle ideological challenges? How do we define Justice/Equality/Equity? How do we ensure justice and righteousness in our Government? How do we speak the truth in love? We wrestled with what God says about Justice – Amos 7 speaks about God seeking to restore His plumb line of Righteousness

and Justice throughout the land and through His chosen Righteous. Justice is doing it God's way. Justice starts in our hearts. Justice and righteousness is ultimately understood in God and our identity in Him.

A key strategic step in this sphere is to looking at the interconnectedness between the Domains. This is something that we started to do organically. One example of this is a conversation discussing how Christian lawyers in the future could connect with Christian Schools who may face freedom of religion matters before the courts.

# **Family**

Discussion of challenges facing the family including a Godly understanding of gender roles, deconstruction of male authority/need for re-balance & renewed, understanding of male/female roles. Growth in Intergenerational gap with technology &innovation creating gap between young & old, Need for support, encouragement & advice for parents/grandparents, Urbanisation - lack of community & togetherness. A number of responses were suggested. Some key ones are: Focus on relationships/building community. The church is here to heal families. Need to engage community to be family friendly.

# **Christ's Missional**

The body of Christ compelled by the love of Christ demonstrated in both word and deed. Engaging people everywhere, leading them to embrace God and others.

This group developed six particular areas of focus:

- 1. Create a culture of intimacy with God and each other both individually and corporately.
- 2. Create/foster a culture of prayer and intercession to undergird and propel mission
- 3. Equipping and empowering of the Holy spirit in every believer to fulfill their call to be witnesses
- 4. Releasing and sending every generation into every sphere
- 5. Identifying areas of need and intentionally ministering into it.
- 6. Aim for complete unity in the body of Christ

# Celebration

The following outcomes were identified in this group:

- The call of Amos 9:11 to build houses of prayer in the spirit of the Tabernacle of David, and to connect together.
- To seek His glory as the Bride.
- To encourage and listen to the Aboriginal Prayer movement in the nation.
- To connect together with the houses of prayer in the South Pacific region. We are a rising army at the uttermost ends of the earth.

## Other broader issues

Interconnectedness between the spheres and challenges. This is something that we started to do organically.

One example of this is a conversation between the justice, educational and missional challenges - discussing how Christian lawyers in the future could connect with Christian Schools who may face freedom of religion matters before the courts.