



Our prayer is, 'Come, Lord Jesus!'

VOICE 2014

A Generational Perspective

The statement 'There is now a Struggle for the Soul of our Nation' is an indication of where God has brought the Community and we feel that young people, whose lives will be affected by many decisions in the near future, should be able to share what God is saying to them at this time of crisis.

At the end of December 2013 four young people were approached - Rachel Lee, Thomas Manwell, Adam Wisdich & Pieter Hermans - and asked to prayerfully consider these four questions:

1. What is God saying to and about the world?
2. What is God saying to and about our nation?
3. What is God saying to and about the churches?
4. What is God saying to and about the Maranatha Community?

After a period of 3 months, they met together on 8th March 2014 at The Ark to share with the Community what they believe God is saying. These are the notes from that time of sharing.

Present: Pieter Hermans, Thomas Manwell, Adam Wisdich, Rachel Lee
Simon Willocq (joined the meeting later)

We shared our expectations for the day & I encouraged us in our agreement that God's capacity to speak is greater than our facility for hearing. I shared how no single one of us has a monopoly of what God is saying, but rather than each of us in our weakness come together to listen together & what emerges is God's voice - not the voice of any one charismatic individual.

AW began our time of sharing what we have heard in our prayer.

- The Church needs to stand firm & be counted. Affirmation of our need for a public witness of the faith. We need to hear publicly "God has a plan for our country & we ought to listen to it."
- The Church needs to be more efficient - image of F1 team pit-stop.
- 1Cor13:13. Hope (a public matter!); faith & love - as bellows in image of flames (like Olympic torch) spreading till all UK in darkness but covered with these little lights.
- Proverbs - passages referring to a dishonest scale. Applied to Church - not consistent in its proclamation of social justice, hasn't taken these things to heart.
- "Anointing of Kings" - "Crowned **only** with the majesty of Jesus Christ"
- Testimony of prayer time - Luke 12, Rom 4 & Phil 6 (Phil 4:6). Summary of lesson: Stop Working, Start Praying!

- PH - Adam's testimony illustrates our agreement that God's capacity to speak is greater than our facility to listen.
- PH - F1 image resonates with our individual weakness, but our joining together being strong. TM - driver in car is like patient on surgeon's table, must abandon to others. Not any **one** is fully in control.
- TM - Do not be anxious. Invitation is to focus on God, not on the problem (image of Peter on the water). Approach to problem should demonstrate our faith (hope) - walk "like kings". PH - intercession out of sovereignty not wrestling with evil.

TM.

- Pattern of 2Chron5:7-14 for the Church. 1 - Ark taken into Inner Sanctuary. Hide the law of God in your hearts. Be Holy as I AM Holy. 2 - Consecrated regardless of division. 3 - Worship. His love endures forever.
- BATTLE. People of God know about the armour, but do not take up the sword. Church has learnt a lot about intimacy with God's voice, but now need to declare what He is speaking with His authority. The battle is coming, & this is our weapon in it. Not only standing alongside each other, but must equip the saints to speak for themselves. This is given with particular reference to the youth of this nation.
- Do not underestimate the need for us to forgive & the power of forgiveness. The neglect of forgiveness can be a blockage.
- Do not underestimate the need to honour our brothers & sisters. When we do so it opens up further ways for God to use us.
- PH - words on forgiveness & honour can be amply supported by testimony.
- AW - affirmed call to unity "regardless of divisions".
- AW - noted that we are to engage with the battle as Jesus has - without aggression/violence. Rather, to stand between (in the gap). Sword as defensive weapon, otherwise unarmed.
- AW - noted progression. Identity - Intimacy - Authority. TM - only do what you see the Father doing.
- PH - A burning witness of hope.
- AW - Equip. Must demonstrate faith (hope) in the good that God proposes for each of our children! Primary concern for our children (Mk10).

RL noted that her style of listening was very experiential.

- Restless. Experience of the battle. Shared her vision of battleground given last year.
- Equip the Saints "day by day"! Need for consistent & persistent.
- Testimony of healing. Experience of affective sympathy - being moved by others / to share insight into their experience. Especially despair of many in our generation. This comes from freedom of heart & His desire to share His Heart. Experiences of waterfalls/tsunamis collapsing in on themselves - complete emotional healing.
- PH - interpretation of Mary "who had 7 demons cast out", complete healing! Enables declarative prayer?
- Consecration. Be holy. Sense of identity.
- A Matter of Life & Death!
- AW - Resonance of need for attention to armour daily. Let this be part of our daily routine of prayer.

- PH - This is included in Lord's Prayer. "Lead us not into temptation" indicates a heart set after God & intention to abide in Him, knowing how quickly we falter apart from Him (how fierce the battle is!). "Deliver us from evil" indicates our affirmation that God is victorious in our deliverance, & demonstrates our heart's setting itself firmly in Him.
- AW - noted that all our messages seem to start off with negative situation, but bring a positive perspective. Lesson seems to be that God is calling us to fight on - He will deliver!

PH.

- Core theme: Relationships. Witnessed at Quinta by desire of generations to 'share life'. Fundamental need is personal affirmation in personal relationship - whatever else we do we must uphold this fundamentally basic need. Image of many in need but 'faceless'.
- Shared testimony of "Asylum" - how an asylum seeker had shared how their vulnerability was received only by distancing, by treating them as mad. (Failure to embrace vulnerability leading to failure to bear witness to hope).
- "Remember" - Is this nation is carrying a generational trauma? There is a need for healing.
- Core theme for Church & Nation: Public Witness of Faith.
- "Keeping Face, but Loosing Heart". Attending to appearances, but substance of hope has been lost.
- Church "set at odds" - amongst itself & with the world about it. Injustice (as a matter of vision) - it weighs what God does in one denomination greater than what He does elsewhere. Rather must have eyes to see what God is doing & to share in it wherever He is working!
- What is the role of the Maranatha Community in stirring up the prayer of authority? A pattern for community seeking to raise up prayer in alignment with God's own heart. James 5:16. Mutual confession (vulnerability) - Common prayer (intimacy)-right relationships (healing!) - prayer that works in alignment with how God is working.
- AW - Sees faceless need as 'blank cheque' for prayer. We have the right to pray for each of them (give them face).
- AW - Mutual confession is of equals. PH - Resonance with 2Chron5 / Prov, we are all equal at the point of consecration.
- AW - Nation needs to embrace new identity. Loose Face & Develop New Heart. Loose national arrogance & empire-mindset.

SW was invited to join us to help us discern & feed back to us what we have been sharing, as a fresh set of ears.

- Do not worry, everything is in His hands.
- Set eyes on God's Kingdom, not on natural state.
- Imperative of Unity: gather together!
- Battle. It is important to face the battle, not safe to turn from it. Call to have eyes to see new perspective on battle - as Elijah.
- The battle is fierce & will involve hurt. Need for healing. Intimacy necessary for us in battle.

Dennis Wrigley & Linda Stalley joined meeting for time of prayer & each of us gave our own summary.

PH.

- Lk12:30 "All the nations seek after these things & your Father knows you have need of them."
- To UK: You have been keeping face but losing heart. Stop worrying, start praying!
- To Church: You have been set at odds, come together in mutual confession. The point of meeting is a vulnerable place but it bears witness to hope.
- To Maranatha: Equip the saints (especially the young) to pray with authority in the battle.

AW.

- To Church & Community: Stand Strong, Be Counted. Come together for public witness.
- There is a battle, but remember how Jesus fought. Do not turn from it.
- To UK: Need new identity, rather than holding onto old securities.
- Overall: Positive message in face of negative situation. Look up, as befits a King.

TM.

- Pattern in how to come together (2Chron5:7-14). Hide the Law in your Heart. Be consecrated regardless of division. Worship Him.
- Battle. Use sword of the Spirit. Must equip young to use this sword (esp. in schools) & be healed.
- Forgive, else hinder His work.
- Honour - opens doors.

RL.

- World: Healing.
- UK: Need for Healing.
- Church: Need for Consecration & Action.
- Maranatha: Equip the Saints.

SW.

- Do not worry about our situation, God works all to good.
- We need to be working as one.
- The battle demands of us that we claim our victory.
- The battle will cause wounds, we will need healing.

LS.

- In thanking us, noted what we had shared was both consistent with Maranatha & a new perspective on it.
- "He leads us in narrow paths of righteousness for His names' sake." A plumb line that pierces hearts.
- His perspective: Alpha & Omega.
- Maranatha: Equip Saints & Serve Church.
- Battlefield. New Atheism leading to New Agnosticism. Do not turn away from the battle.

DW.

- Do not underestimate what God is doing here. Small sparks cause big fires.
 - God is looking for a holy impatience. (To have a real sense of the battle).
 - God doesn't change, but the youth bring a new vision for radical change.
 - Do not be afraid of prayer - of what God might propose when we pray!
-