Haggai 1:5 …Consider your ways

South Africa is a land in turmoil. The moral crisis is staggering. Consider these statistics as you pray for God's healing, forgiveness and restoration .

1. HIV/Aids

- In South Africa the life expectancy has dropped from between 60 and 65 down to 47 nationwide and 35 years of age in KwaZulu-Natal. This is a calamity. Some statisticians say that 50 percent of all young people under 15 in South Africa at this time will be dead in 12 to 15 years time.
- No statistic comparable to that has ever been produced by any plague in all of history to date. A quarter of all deaths now in South Africa are Aids-related and last year between 100,000 and 150,000 children were orphaned by Aids. In South Africa, between 5 million and 6 million people are HIV-positive

2. Crime

- Although the crime rate in South Africa has somewhat flattened out recently, nevertheless South Africa ranks amongst the worst five nations in the world in terms of crime. It has been calculated that there is a serious crime every 17 seconds and a rape every 29 seconds. In fact, child rape is up more than 30 percent in the last six or seven years. The incidence of theft is up 25 percent in the last eight years while robbery, without violence, is up 121 percent since 1994. Two-hundred and fifty cars are stolen per day with 50 percent being re-licenced within 30 days as legal because of corruption in certain departments. White collar crime also accounts for multiple billions of rand.

3. Violence

- We have a murder rate 11 times higher than the world average and with somewhere in the region of between 20,000 and 24,000 murders per year. We have one of the highest robbery with violence rates in the world. A third of all our crimes are violent, whereas in the United States only 15 percent and in Britain only 6 percent are violent.

4. Poverty and Unemployment

- In South Africa, we have an unemployment rate which varies in estimates from 35 percent to 41 percent. This means that somewhere in the region of 6 million people at least are looking for jobs. Some 14 percent of South Africa's households are earning less than R600 per month. In some townships, the unemployment rate is over 80 percent. Fifty-five percent of our population earn less than R14 per day. Fifty-two percent of African women and 43 percent of African men who are basically employable are actually unemployed.

5. Racism

- It is very obvious as one reads the story of the children of Israel coming out of Egypt that, although they finally got out of Egypt, it was a long time before Egypt got out of them! In South Africa, we have come away from a past of institutionalised racism, but racism has not yet come out of us.

6. Sexism

- Sexism speaks about different kinds of discrimination on the basis of gender, usually brought from men against women. The very worst form of this, of course, is rape, which we have mentioned earlier. In one recent year in South Africa, there were over 51,000 cases of rape. No other society we know of has anything quite comparable. This is the ultimate form of sexism and abuse of women. Beyond that, there is much verbal and physical abuse and violence against women which is not necessarily sexual in nature.

7. Family Crisis

- Given all we have said about the previous six Goliaths, it is perhaps not surprising to discover that South Africa has one of the highest marital and domestic breakdown rates in the world: approximately one in three across the country, one in two in Gauteng and there are certain sectors of the population for which statistics mercifully do not exist, as they would take us clean off the dial again. But the consequence of this breakdown rate is immense trauma and pain in both men and women, but especially women, and most particularly in children. The latter are the main victims of the family breakdown and many will carry lifelong scars in consequence.

From " Prayer Items and Sacla 2 Goliaths " for Transformation Africa Prayer Rallies – May 1 , 2003 by Michael Cassidy

U plaaslike video winkel het 'n verantwoordelikheid

Gedurende Julie word die Jesus Projek (spreek die misbruik van die Here se Naam in die media aan) na video winkels uitgebrei.

Tans is daar geen waarskuwing op videos dat die Naam van die Here misbruik word nie. Die plaaslike video winkel het egter 'n verantwoordelikheid om sy kliënte van al die relevante inligting te voorsien. Dit is ook baie duidelik dat die mees effektiewe plek om die misbruik van God se Naam aan te spreek by die betaalpunt is. Ongelukkig reageer instansies klaarblyklik net as hulle dit aan eie sak voel.

Die volgende voorstel word in die midde van video winkels gelê. Help asseblief om hierdie inligting aan die plaaslike video winkels deur te gee.

* In die geval waar die video winkel aan 'n groep (franchise) verbonde is onderhandel die Jesus Projek tans met hoofkantore vir 'n bevredigende reëling.
* In die geval van private inisiatiewe (waarvan daar letterlik duisende is) word voorgestel dat die plaaslike winkel met kliënte 'n ooreenkoms aangaan om, nadat videos gesien is, te help met 'n klassifikasie. Die goeie gesindheid van winkels in die verband sal verseker dat kliënte realistiese verwagtinge koester. Waar winkels egter weier om kliënte tegemoed te kom word 'n algehele verbruikers-boikot voorgestel.

Vir gebruik deur video winkels: In belang van goeie verhoudinge met ons kliënte het ons besluit om videos deegliker te klassifiseer. Indien u van mening is dat 'n betrokke video nie genoegsame waarskuwings bevat rakende taal, naaktheid, seks en geweld nie, stel ons daarvan in kennis. Ons sal moeite doen om kliënte betyds in te lig deur 'n addisionele klassifikasie op die omslag aan te bering. (Die simbool D dui die gebruik/misbruik van God se Naam aan).

Die Jesus Projek en Transformasie vat hande

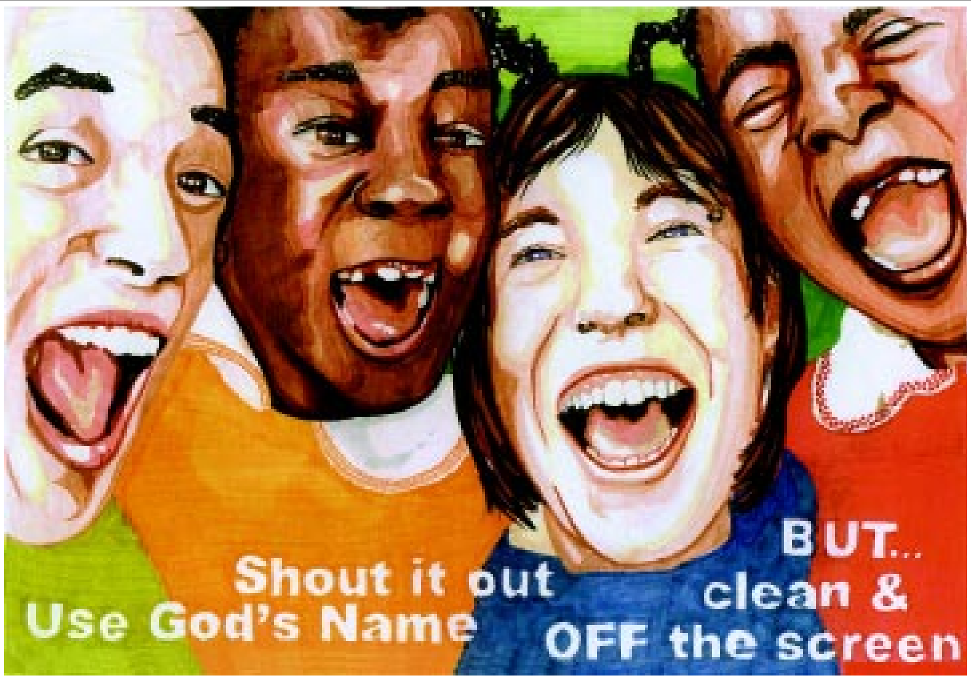
Transformasie is een van die mees ambisieuse projekte wat op Suider Afrikaanse bodem van stapel gestuur word . 'n Entoesiastiese saamtrek op Nuweland twee jaar gelede het in 2002 na 8 saamtrekke en vanjaar na meer as 70 saamtrekke in Suid Afrika gegroei. Daarbenewens neem talle Afrika lande deel aan die dag van verootmoediging en gebed. Tussen 5 en 7 miljoen mense mag uiteindelik op 1 Mei in gebed verenig. Die Lig skyn vêr in die hart van Afrika en bring genesing .

Een van die groot aktiwiteite van Transformasie is die sg. Walk of Hope. Honderde gemeenskappe getuig demonstratief dat Jesus die antwoord is op die kwelvrae van ons tyd . Die stappery kulmineer in die nagenoeg sewentig saamtrekke oor die lengte en breedte van ons land .

Die misbruik van die Naam van die Here is op die hart van die Transformasie inisiatief. Dat God se Naam heilig is en respekteer moet word word aan minstens 2500 skole uitgedra deur jongmense wat in spanne van twee - twee uitbeweeg. Plakkate, baniere en uitdeelstukke vorm deel van die Jesus Projek se kommunikasie strategie. Uiteindelik word 'n generasie jongmense in die vooruitsig gestel wat respek sal hê vir die Naam van God. Daarsonder is geen morele opbou moontlik nie.

'n Skole kompetisie het die mooiste ontwerpe opgelewer. Ongelukkig kan almal nie wen nie. Die ontwerp van Zana Ackermann het uiteindelik almal se harte verower. Die plakaat (met alternatiewe woorde) word tans landwyd versprei. Geluk Zana!!!

Hierdie plakkaat is beskikbaar. **Sien bladsy 8**

Nasionale verootmoediging

- Christene verootmoedig omdat hulle dikwels self skuldig is aan misbruik van die Naam van die Here deur sonder verwagting te bid , hulself skuldig maak aan die onnadenkende gebruik van die Naam van die Here, versuim om teenoor ander te getuig van God se almag en liefde
- Christene verootmoedig omdat hulle die vele inisiatiewe om die misbruik van die Here se Naam aan te spreek van die verlede halfhartig ondersteun en uiteindelik handdoek ingegooi het
- Die magte van die duisternis word herinner aan die oorwinning wat deur die opstanding van Jesus Christus 'n werklikheid is en Christene begin om vanuit 'n oorwinningsperspektief rondom hierdie saak te bid en aanbid
- Christene bid vir alle gelowiges wat in posisies van besluitneming is – dat hulle hul invloed sal laat geld
- Christene herinner hulself aan die beloftes van God in 2 Kron 7:14