



08.11.11

To All Participants in Fountain Vineyard

Pastoral Letter 5/2011

Dear Friends,

- A. This morning I announced **my resignation** from the status quo. (You can hear the full message on our website – entitled – ‘**Grace and authentic Relationships: why I resigned from the status quo**’).

It has become overwhelmingly obvious that we are at risk as a Church when two thirds of our participants are no longer in small groups or House Churches.

This has made the pastoral task difficult because God has designed fellowship as the principal place of nurture and growth, not professional pastoral care.

It also puts all of us at risk in that we see Biblically and in experience that when people are not in regular fellowship they soon fall badly!

I am calling and appointing **Ricky** to lead our House Church/small Group Network. He is a good spiritual son and is very respectful and teachable – and soaking up any fathering I can give him.

So if you are called to Fountain Vineyard I urge you to press in to a small group that is part of the Fountain Vineyard network.

If you want to start such a group contact Ricky.

- B. We are concerned to make a difference to the **youth** of our city and are believing for a strong Youth group. I am backing **Kirsty** in this and in sounding the call for a guy to come on board and help this happen over at least the next 2 years. Kirsty is doing a great job and needs a guy to team up with her to expand this ministry and reach more young people.

Pray for this, please!

C. **Financially** we are challenged at present. Our income record over the past 8 months is as follows:

2011	Amount
March	178 364
April	187 893
May	226 289
June	213 140
July	196 591
August	277 268
September	194 305
October	190 532

Aggregate: R208 048 per month

This currently leaves us with a Shortfall of R60 000 over 8 months.
What I really feel stirred up about is a climate of **gratitude**.

We show gratitude and faith in God's provision by **tithing**.

Will you stand with us for the miracle of gratitude based tithing.
The Lord is calling every participant in Fountain Vineyard to this.

Let's also be careful not to conform to the consumerism of Christmas but rather be faithful in simplicity and gratitude.

We're looking forward to our End of Year Roundup on 27 November! We will celebrate the blessings of the year and cast vision for the way ahead. Think about this for yourself:

- (a) **How** has God been good to you?
- (b) What **changes** might the Lord be calling forth in and through you?

Thank you for the privilege of pastoring you!

Yours in Christ,
Dave
Senior Pastor