

18 March 2008

Dear Theunis Botha,

We are issuing this invitation to you as an influential Christian person in South Africa with the request that you attend an urgently convened consultation relating to the very serious situation prevailing in our country at this time. Our intention is to come before the Lord to seek His face in this regard at this critical moment in our history. We believe it is a matter of urgency that we do so and have felt deeply constrained to sound this call to gather those whom we believe are in positions of influence & responsibility to determine the Way Forward for both Church and nation.

We feel persuaded that you are almost certainly amongst those who with us are deeply concerned about the moral and ethical decline in the country and who feel that the nation has shifted toward a crisis of serious proportions. This crisis has dimensions which are spiritual, moral, political and social. In fact, so serious are these realities that many in the country have reached a precarious tipping point into despair and hopelessness in recent months. And those who do not feel these emotions have come at least to a place of very profound concern and anxiety.

In response to this situation some 30 Christian leaders recently met in Johannesburg on Monday, 25 February to reflect, pray and seek a relevant way for Christians of influence to respond at this time. Sadly, there has been a curious silence and almost paralysis in the Church over recent years, particularly in terms of addressing a prophetic or guiding Word to the nation. This has left many perplexed and mystified.

Our group of 30 emerged from that day with the compelling sense that, under God and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we should as a matter of utmost urgency call together some 400 Christians who are in positions of leadership and influence in every sector of our society. We are hoping to draw together key Christian influencers from the following sectors to be part of this consultation:

- ◆ The family
- ◆ The Church
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Business
- ◆ Politics & Government – includes Justice, Safety and Security, Health etc
- ◆ Science & Technology
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Sport
- ◆ Arts and Entertainment

We believe that you should be numbered in this group and therefore ask you to participate in this gathering which we regard as the launch of a '*National Initiative for Reformation of South Africa*' (NIRSA). Therefore, this invitation is extended to you on behalf of the recently formed **Christian Coalition for National Renewal and Integrity**.

We are very grateful to God that the generous contributions received to date have made it possible to keep the cost of the consultation to a minimum.

The date for this consultation is 22 – 23 April 2008. The consultation will be held at the Birchwood Conference Centre, 120 North Rand Road, Bartlett, Boksburg (5 min from OR Tambo International Airport.) The cost of the consultation is R350 per person and covers daily refreshments and lunch. However this does not include overnight accommodation or travel. We will incidentally mail to you an assortment of accommodation options to help you in this regard as you seek to make your plans to come. (For more details please refer to end of letter.)

We are fully aware that this call at such short notice may well be inconvenient and impose a demand for the adjustment of your schedule and some sacrifice with respect to the commitments already on your plate. However, in the light of the seriousness of our situation we feel justified in making this urgent call. We therefore urge you to consider full participation in the two day gathering.

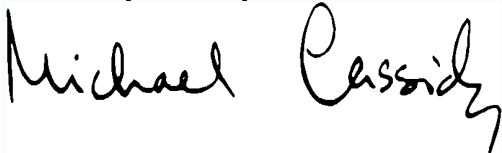
We have felt led to consider the principles set forth in the story of Jehoshaphat recorded in 2 Chronicles chapters 17 to 20. In particular our attention has been drawn to Jehoshaphat's prayer recorded in chapter 20 verse 12,

“O, our God ... we are powerless ... we do not know what to do ... but our eyes are upon thee.”
2 Chr 20:12

We believe that if we as Christians of some influence or leadership would come before God in this way we would be complying with Our Lord's will for us at this time and will see a Divine intervention in our nation that will pave the way for the long- term solutions that we all long to see.

Will you therefore pray about this with all urgency and seriousness and let us have your response as soon as possible. Please refer to the additional information regarding registration below as a matter of great urgency. We look forward to hearing from you and trust that you will confirm your availability to attend.

Yours very sincerely in the Love of Christ



Michael Cassidy
Chairperson NIRSA

On behalf of Co-Conveners:

Dr Michael Cassidy
Founder: African Enterprise

Rev Moss Ntlha
General Secretary: The Evangelical Alliance of SA

Steering Committee: G Smerdon, Z Misana, D Rees, T Makamu, N Boshoff, S Mengezeleli

Advisory Council: P Tarantal, H Koegelenberg, V Nyobore, P Watt, E Bowers, C la Foy, N Paul Mzisa, F Retief, T Pearce, T Ntlhola, A Venter, G Mahlobo, D Spangenberg, E Seobi, S Bukula, B Mostert, P Passaro, J van Niekerk, I Burger, E Buthelezi, M Morrison, N Mazabane, D Muller, M Louis, Z Nel.