

STAKE IN THE GROUND

We understand that the redemptive purpose of Durbanville is linked to the spring in Durbanville. The San & Khoi people populated the land. As early pioneers came to the area, they soon began to explore inland. This spring provided a place for early pioneers to rest and be restored. Here they provisioned themselves before pioneering onwards. Hence we understand that God's purpose for Durbanville is to refresh, restore, equip and send out.

We put this stake in the ground to declare, by faith, this land is redeemed of God to refresh, restore, equip and send out people. At ESCC – we trust God to play a key role in seeing people refreshed, restored, equipped and sent out. In agreement of faith, for God to raise up spiritual fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, in Godly alignment to the apostolic & sent to the corners of this earth with the Good News of God.

Cape to Cairo to Jerusalem

We recognize that Durbanville is part of the Western Cape. From this area will ignite a fire that will spread from Cape to Cairo to Jerusalem to fulfil the prophecy in Is 19:23-25. In faith, we believe we are part of this move of God and trust God that Durbanville & ESCC will play a significant part in fulfilling it.

²³ In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together. ²⁴ In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth. ²⁵ The Lord Almighty will bless them, saying, "Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance."

The time is now

We believe God is moving on this now.

Deuteronomy 1:6-12 (NLT)

⁶ "When we were at Mount Sinai, the LORD our God said to us, 'You have stayed at this mountain long enough. ⁷ It is time to break camp and move on. Go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all the neighboring regions—the Jordan Valley, the hill country, the western foothills, the Negev, and the coastal plain. Go to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, and all the way to the great Euphrates River. ⁸ I am giving all this land to you! Go in and occupy it, for it is the land the LORD swore to give to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and to all their descendants.'

The muddied spring

Proverbs 25:26 (ANIV)

²⁶ *Like a muddied spring or a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked.*

The spring is muddied by introversion, lack of apostolic thrust, mammon and unbiblical worldviews. God intends this area to be a provider of resources. This is particularly evident in the financial area. We recognize a spirit of mammon reflected in the materialism of the area. Durbanville primarily utilizes its resources for itself. We believe God wants Durbanville to be like a turnstile – people being blessed and becoming a blessing (Gen 12:1-13). We

understand this blessing means 'empowered to prosper in every aspect of life – salvation, sending, finances, signs and wonders, mission, family life & every domain of society etc.

We believe God wants this area to be a fresh flowing spring as indicated in Ezekiel 47:1-12. We proclaim God's desire, in faith, that Durbanville will become a fresh flowing river reflecting God's Kingdom in each domain in society. We specifically highlight family life in Durbanville - family is God's building block for the society and His church. This, we believe, is one of Durbanville's, key callings. This Scripture – especially vs 9-12 – captures God's promise to us and a picture of society reformation for which we trust.

Ezekiel 47:1-12 (ANIV)

¹ *The man brought me back to the entrance of the temple, and I saw water coming out from under the threshold of the temple towards the east (for the temple faced east). The water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar. ² He then brought me out through the north gate and led me round the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was flowing from the south side. ³ As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and then led me through water that was ankle-deep. ⁴ He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. ⁵ He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. ⁶ He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in—a river that no-one could cross. ⁷ He asked me, "Son of man, do you see this?" Then he led me back to the bank of the river. ⁸ When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river. ⁹ He said to me, "This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Sea. When it empties into the Sea, the water there becomes fresh. ¹⁰ Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. ¹¹ Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds—like the fish of the Great Sea. ¹² But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. ¹³ Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing." (emphasis added)*

EL SHADDAI CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We are planted here in Durbanville for a purpose. In agreement with the redemptive purpose of Durbanville, we trust God to raise up this local church to be a place where spiritual fathers & mother, sons and daughter are refreshed, restored, equipped and sent out.

“The church was not brought into being to exist as an end in itself. God brought it into being to fulfil his intention to carry his ministry to the world. To perpetuate what He did and to do what He would do were He still here. Jesus made radical converts, trained and equipped them and commissioned key leaders to travel, taught them to plant churches and bases from which to operate. They would win converts, plant a church, care for the converts, teach them and they would win converts. The message would spread in widening circles and the task would eventually be completed. So local evangelism, church planting and world mission are all the same thing. The only difference lies in the length of the radius. We must work in all these area’s. Anything less is not the Lord’s intention.”

In placing this stake in the ground, we trust God for the fulfillment of the vision for this local church.

Our Mission (assignment, task, job)

For people be Born Again, full of the Holy Spirit & energetic disciples of Jesus Christ who impact society with the Kingdom (rule) of God.

Our Inheritance (Vision, the land we are called to take)

1. To be a New Testament cell based church that grows by renewing & restoring people, equipping leaders, multiplying cells and sending people out to transform their workplaces, the community & nations with the Gospel of the Kingdom.
2. To be a base church that facilitates and supplies Kingdom work beyond ourselves
3. To plant self governing, self propagating cell churches anywhere in the world as the Lord directs & thus spreading the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

Three keys we have been given (our mandate, direction, instruction)

**Restore & Refresh
Equip
Send Out**

Our mandate from God is to see the redemptive purpose of Durbanville, as a place of restoring, refreshing, equipping & sending out, to be re-established. We desire for people to be restored & refreshed, equipped and sent out.

Heb 11:6 “And without faith it is impossible to please God”

As a start we specifically trust God for :

1. a release of spiritual power and a personal renewal for every person characterized by a fresh flow of intimacy, worship, prayer & commitment to a Biblical worldview for every aspect of their lives.
2. new converts to Jesus & for ‘prodigals’ to return to Christ. By faith we, at ESCC, trust for 1000 new converts, as the first fruits of this calling, to find God saving grace, through spiritual parenting to be disciplined as energetic followers of Jesus Christ who will be sent out from ESCC with the message of the Gospel of the Kingdom.
3. cells to develop a clear missional thrust and for ‘Simple Churches’ to be planted. We trust for the multiplication of this factor until we are making a significant contribution to the society reformation of these Northern suburbs and raising a quality of person with a large capacity to plant church anywhere in the world as the Lord directs.
4. the extending of the work with the poor in all areas including the area of HIV/AIDS.
5. To raise an intergenerational church that releases His mandate and authority for real Christian influence from generation to generation.
6. the development of the Gospel of the Kingdom in this local church & in all the international mission work assigned to ESCC. We trust God for clear testimony of people Discipling their domains & seeing society reformed.
7. making of disciples for every pupil at ESCS.
8. this local church to be an increasingly effective resource base with a willingness to serve COTN and other churches however God chooses.
9. for family life to be protected and a witness to others
10. for God to ‘bless us indeed, enlarge our territory, keep us from harm & keep your hand on us’