

"The harvest is ready but the laborers are sitting in the pews. They need a good kick in their blessed assurance to get them out into the fields," said pastor Danny Nallieh of Catch the Fire ministries giving the devotion at the National Alliance of Christian Leaders (NACL) dinner in Canberra on Saturday 4 December.

Danny gave a passionate and much appreciated devotion from Nehemiah saying that every church needs to have people in it committed to watch and to build.

The keynote speaker at the dinner was the Rev Robert Evans OAM, who has written books on evangelical revivals and books on worldview philosophy. He said there had been many evangelical revivals in Australia including one in 1835 in Port Arthur; in 1853 on the Bendigo gold fields; and that thousands were converted through the preaching of California Taylor in 1864, 1865 and 1869. He said 1250 were converted in 1875 in a copper mining town in SA, mostly Welsh and Cornish miners.

He said worldview philosophy was applying the kingdom of God in all areas of our minds as well as in our hearts and souls and understanding our place in the world. "Only when we have a philosophical basis can we confront people with different views and transform the world."

Other speakers at the dinner were: Jenny Stokes of Saltshakers, giving an update on the anti-vilification trials; Dr Clifford Smith of the Christian Medical and Dental Fellowship; Helen Woodall, editor of New Life; Bill Hodgson, national director of Campus Crusade for Christ; Warwick Marsh of the Fatherhood Foundation; Babette Francis of the Endeavor Forum; Bill Muehlenberg of the Australian Family Association; Wayne Deeth of Future Achievements Australia; Lyle Shelton of Summit Ministries Australia; Roger Birch on the vilification of Christians; Andrew Lansdown of Life Ministries WA and Steve Fielding senator elect for Family First.

Earlier in the evening Jack Sonneman of the Australian Federation for the Family, David Yates of the Australian Christian Lobby and Graham McDonald of Children of the World spoke.

The aim of NACL is to bring Australia to Christ by networking Christian leaders across Australia; helping leaders get a renewed sense of commitment to goals; informing leaders of current issues and what Christian ministries are doing throughout Australia; helping leaders see the big picture and the part they play in the whole of the body of Christ in Australia; and organising events and networking Christian leaders for these events.

Jack mentioned a new program www.100thousandyouth.com aiming to get 100,000 young people speaking up for Christian values. He spoke of the City of Orange, NSW, which has declared itself a pro-life city and of a huge rally in the Victorian town of Shepparton opposing the establishment of a porn shop (Club X Megastore).

Babette spoke of studies showing that older unborn babies feel pain and that when they are aborted they suffer extreme pain breaking the United Nations Convention on Torture which Australia has signed.

Clifford said the Christian Medical and Dental Fellowship is determined to raise up a new generation of doctors and dentists that is united in the gospel, solid in faith and radical in obedience to God.

Warwick said the most important thing any man could do for his children was to love their mother.

For more details about any of these organisations and the work they do please contact the National Alliance of Christian Leaders (NACL).