SHEPHERDS CONFERENCE



CAPE TOWN

08:30-16:30	Thu	21-23
09:00-16:30	Fri	MAY
08:00-11:30	Sat	2026

15 LA PROVENCE RD,
EVERGLEN

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Welcome Note

Welcome to the Cape Town Shepherds Conference! Pastor Tiny Coupar and I would like to formally thank you for attending this year's conference. We look forward to meeting each of you and fellowshipping around the Word of God. If you have any questions during the next couple of days, please do not hesitate to let us know.

There are three book tables provided for you, as well as a table from XL Ministries. The three book tables are hosted by Pilgrims Place Books, Creation Ministries International, and Everglen Baptist Church.

For those from out of town searching for a place to get dinner, there are several restaurants within a 5-minute drive: Glengarry Shopping Centre, The Village in Durbanville, and Tyger Valley Mall.

If there is anything we can do for you while you are at the conference, please let me or Tiny know.

We pray you will be blessed and edified through the wonderful teaching from this year's speakers!

Yours for the Master's Use,

Mark Christopher

Thursday Program - 21 May 2026

8:30	9:15		Registration
9:15	9:30		Welcome & Introductions
9:30	10:30	Plenary Session	**A Faithful Ministry** Ken Ramey
10:30	11:00		Tea Break
11:00	12:15	Plenary Session	**XL Ministries: Resources for Training** Ryan Mitchell
12:15	13:30		Lunch Break
13:30	14:45	Plenary Session	**When People Throw Stones** Ken Ramey
14:45	15:15		Tea Break
15:15	16:30	Breakout Option 1	**Restoring Grace for Broken Shepherds** Stephan Museler
		Breakout Option 2	**Counselling Your Heart to Finish Well** Bruce Newsham

Friday Program - 22 May 2026

9:00	9:15		Welcome & Announcements
9:15	10:30	Plenary Session	**Preaching to Yourself to Shepherd Your Soul** Ken Ramey
10:30	11:00		Tea Break
11:00	12:15		**The Gender of God: Is He or Isn't She?** Mark Christopher
12:15	13:30		Lunch Break
13:30	14:45	Breakout Option 1	**Living with a Limp: The Blessing of Remaining Sin** – Ken Ramey
		Breakout Option 2	**Enduring Grace in Fragile Vessels** Stephan Museler
14:45	15:15		Tea Break
15:15	16:30	Plenary Session	**A Minister and His Marriage** Ken Ramey

Saturday Program - 23 May 2026

8:00	9:00	Breakfast
9:00	10:15	**Plenary Session Focused on Men** Ken Ramey
10:15	10:30	Break
10:30	11:30	**Plenary Session Focused on Men** Stephan Museler

1. A Faithful Ministry (Acts 20:24)

Ken Ramey

1. Sold-out

2. Steadfast

3. Single-minded

2. XL Ministries: Resources for Training

Ryan Mitchell

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3. When People Throw Stones:
Responding to Criticism in a Christlike Way
(2 Sam 16:5-14) – Ken Ramey

1. Remember it could always be worse (vv. 5-8)

2. Refuse to defend yourself or retaliate (vv. 9-10a)

3. Receive it as from God's sovereign hand (vv. 10b-11)

4. Rest in God's goodness and mercy (v. 12)

5. Remain steadfast and stay the course (v. 13)

6. Refresh yourself in God and His Word (v. 14)

4. Restoring Grace for Broken Shepherds
(John 21:15-19) – Stephan Museler (Breakout Option 1)

1. Restoring Grace Confronts the Heart (vv. 15-17a)

2. Restoring Grace Recommissions the Work (vv. 15-17b)

3. Restoring Grace Reframes the Cost (vv. 18-19a)

4. Restoring Grace Reasserts the Call (vv. 19b)

5. Counselling Your Heart to Finish Well
(2 Tim 4:6-8) – Bruce Newsham (Breakout Option 2)

Six lessons from Paul's triumphant summary

1. View all of life as an offering to God (v. 6a)

2. View your death as a release from sins' limitations (v. 6b)

3. Fight the enemy with tenacity (v. 7a)

4. Run your race with endurance (v. 7b)

5. Guard the gospel as a faithful steward (v. 7c)

6. Take encouragement from the promised rewards (v. 8)

6. Preaching to Yourself: How to Shepherd Your Own Soul (Ps 42-43) – Ken Ramey

1. The Causes of Depression (vv. 1-4; 6-11; 43:1-4)

A. Abandoned by God

B. Antagonized by Enemies

C. Afflicted by Trials

2. The Cure for Depression (vv. 5, 11; 43:5)

A. Self-contemplation

B. Self-confrontation

7. The Gender of God: Is He or Isn't She?

Mark Christopher

Introduction: The problem of re-gendering God — examples:

Ruth Tucker	Kenneth Copeland
Tony Campolo	The Shack

Gender Inclusive Language in hymns and Bible translations

1. Precursors That Drive the Gender-Inclusive Train:

1.1 The Feminist Movement:

1.2 The Neo-Pagan Emphasis of the New Age:

- Pantheism:

- ANE Religions:

1.3 The Promotion of Egalitarianism:

1.4 A Culture-Driven Hermeneutic:

1.5 The Allegation of Christian Sexism:

2. Biblical and Theological Considerations in Forming an Adequate Response:

2.1 The Masculine Terminology Used to Describe God:

2.2 An Explanation of the Feminine Imagery Related to God's Gender:

- The proper use of metaphors, similes, and figurative language describing God's gender.

- NT Examples:

2.3 The Transcendence of God:

- Defined:

- Detailed:

- His Immutability:

- His Inscrutability:

2.4 The Incarnation of Jesus Christ:

3. The Need for Gender — Why Did God Create Gender at All?

3.1 The Image of God in 'Male' and 'Female':

3.2 The OT Explanation:

- To avoid the deifying and ritualizing of sex as evidenced in the ANE fertility cults:

- To avoid idolatry:

- To portray the husband/wife relationship God has with Israel (Hos. 2:19; Ezk. 16:3-14):

3.3 The NT Explanation:

- To illustrate, through human marriage, the relationship that Christ enjoys with His bride, the church (Eph. 5:22-33):

- To mirror the relationship of the trinity through the example of marriage (1 Cor. 11:3):

- To illustrate the uniqueness of the relationship between God and His people:

Concluding Thoughts:

8. Living with a Limp: The Blessing of Remaining Sin – Ken Ramey (Breakout Option 1)

1. It assures us that we are truly saved.

2. It keeps us from becoming self-righteous and enables us to empathize with our fellow sinners.

3. It shows us how wicked and weak we really are and how desperately dependent we need to be on God.

4. It provides us with regular opportunities to appreciate/ celebrate the power and preciousness of the gospel.

5. It exposes how heinous sin is and makes us hate it more.

6. It exalts how glorious Christ is and endears Him to us.

7. It increases our longing for heaven where we will enjoy eternal rest from sin.

9. Enduring Grace in Fragile Vessels
(2 Cor 4:7-18) – Stephan Museler (Breakout Option 2)

1. The Purpose of Weakness: Treasure in Jars of Clay (v. 7)

2. The Preservation in Pressure: Afflicted but Not Crushed (vv. 8-9).

3. The Pattern of Ministry: Death in the Servant, Life in the Church (vv. 10-15).

4. The Perspective for Endurance: Inner Renewal and Eternal Glory (vv. 16-18).

10. A Minister and His Marriage (1 Pet 3:7)

Ken Ramey

1. Pursue Your Wife

2. Prize Your Wife

11. Breakfast Session 1 – Ken Ramey

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12. Breakfast Session 2 – Stephan Museler

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Speakers



Abera Ajula (M.Div., Th.M.) Abera is a director of pastoral training for Kale Hiwot (Living Word) in Ethiopia.



Ken Ramey (M.Div., D.Min.) Ken has been a pastor at Lakeside Bible Church in Houston, Texas, for 26 years. He previously served under John MacArthur at Grace Community Church and The Master's University.



Stephan Museler (M.Div., D.Min) Stephan is an elder at Living Stone Bible Church, Sandton. He is a member of Grace Advance and the co-founder of African Revitalization Centre.



Ryan Mitchell (M.Div.) Ryan is an elder at Living Hope Bible Church in Pietermaritzburg and the Director for International Ministries at XL Ministries. He was previously part of a church planting team in Papua New Guinea.



Bruce Newsham (B.Th., M.Div.) Bruce serves as an elder at Tygerberg Evangelical Christian Fellowship. He lecturers at The Berean Bible Institute, Christ Baptist Seminary and Creation Ministries International.



Mark Christopher (M.Div., M.Th., Ph.D. Candidate) Mark has served as a missionary church planter in Cape Town for 30 years. He is currently the Elder of Leadership Training and Development at Everglen Baptist Church and serves as the academic dean for The Berean Bible Institute.