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Section 1

Ellel Ministries Statement of Faith Regarding Biblical Healing

In regard to Biblical Healing, we believe that:

- The Bible emphatically teaches that the triune God heals. The love of the Father, the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ and the transformative power of the Holy Spirit all form essential parts of the Biblical healing process. Healing is part of God's nature and character. (Ex 15:26; Luke 4:40-41)
- God is a God of relationship. His primary goal is to restore and strengthen relationship with us as his children. As such, the restoration and growth of our relationship with God should always be a primary focus in the healing process. (Jer 3:19; Mal 4:6; John 14:6-11)
- The greatest healing any of us can ever receive from the Lord is our eternal salvation, which is life from dead for the believer. (Eph 2:4-8; 1 Pet 1: 3 –5; 2 Cor 5:17)
- Subsequent healing is best defined as the restoration of God's order in a person's life. This can only be achieved by engaging with our Creator God in Holy Spirit-led and Holy Spirit-empowered application of Biblical teaching and principles. (John 8:32; Rom 12:2)
- Healing, seen as restoration, can only be understood in light of the foundational truth that all people, both male and female, have been created in His image. Whilst we all reflect God's image, each of us has also been given a unique personal identity, which has immense value to God. Only in relationship with God can we fully understand who we truly are. (Gen 1:26-27; Jer 1:5; Psa 139:13-16)
- God loves all of His children and as a Father He always desires what is best for us. (Psa 56:9b; Luke 9:56; John 3:17)
- God can heal every part of our personhood: spirit, soul and body. As God created us as an intricate unity, it is possible that disorder in one part of our being can cause sickness or disease in another part. (1 Thess 5:23; Job 10:8; Gen 1:27)
- Everyone has sinned and fallen short of God's righteous standards. Sin (rebellion against God) has consequences for us, not only in heaven, but also on earth. Sinful actions constitute departure from God's order and might result in sickness and disease. God's remedy for sin and its consequences is found by faith in Jesus' sacrifice and can be received through confession, repentance and turning away from sin. (Rom 5:12; Rom 6:23)
- The Bible, God's written word and His unchanging truth, forms the ultimate plumbline for restoring Godly order in someone's life. For God's order to become our reality His truth needs to be accepted and applied in our lives. (Psa 51:6; Psa 119:160; John 8:32; 2 Tim 3:16-17)
- Conviction of sin, and revelation of God's nature and character, are essential works of the Holy Spirit in the process of restoration. (John 14:21; 16:8)

- God respects our free will choices and will not override them, even when they lead to harm. (Psa 81:13; Isa 48:18; John 6:67)
- It is God's desire to heal the broken-hearted. (Psa 147:3; Isa 61:1; Mark 2:5)
- Ever since the Fall of mankind, Satan has held sway on the earth and he can bring people into bondage, resulting in sickness and disease. These spiritual bondages are broken through the application of the victory over darkness which Jesus won on the cross. (1 Jn 5:19; Col 2:15)
- Deliverance ministry (casting out of demons) is a normal part of the healing process for those who seek help under the authority of the Lord Jesus. (Matt 10:7-8; Luke 10:17-20)
- There is no sickness, disease or bondage which is beyond God's ability to heal. (Matt 19:26; Matt 8:3; Mark 5:1-15)
- Healing comes through the application of God's principles in His Word and can also come through direct Divine intervention.
- The LORD is sovereign: He chooses who to heal, how to heal and when to heal. (Jer 17:14; Rom 9:15)
- God performs miracles, He responds to our prayers, and nothing is too difficult for Him. (Psa 30:2; Luke 1:37)
- On this earth, sin, sickness, suffering, evil and death are ever-present realities. As such, we do not support the belief of sinless perfection or complete and perfect restoration before eternity / the resurrection of our bodies. (1 Cor 15:42-44)
- Through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross and by His shed blood and through His resurrection, God provides forgiveness of sins, healing, as well as freedom from bondage for those who believe in Him. These blessings are offered by God in His grace and mercy and cannot be claimed on basis of our own good works or merit. (Isa 53:4-6; 1 Pet 2:24; Gal 3:5; Eph 1:19-21)
- God heals through faith in the Name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit, freely given to all His children, and not through our own power or godliness. (Acts 3:11-16; Gal 3:2; Gal 4:6-7)
- Healing is an integral part of the proclamation of the Kingdom of God, as well as vital to effective fulfilment of the great Commission. (Matt 28:18-20; Mark 16: 15-18, Luke 4:18-19)
- The healing process is intrinsically linked with every other part of our Christian walk. Thus, it cannot be separated from the process of sanctification or from the walk of discipleship. (Matt 16:24-26)
- Whilst we understand that God loves to bring healing, this is by no means the only desire of His heart. He also longs for our holiness and personal transformation into the image of Christ. Suffering is a part of being in a fallen world but relationship with God brings comfort, redemption and healing during difficult times. Sometimes suffering is allowed and used by God to bring deeper understanding and outwork greater things in our lives. (2 Cor 4:7-15; Phil 3:10-11)

- Praying together for healing is a normal, Biblical part of our Christian faith. (Jas 5:14-16)
- We must guard against any belief or practice that puts humankind at the centre of life, rather than God. (Isa 40; Matt 15:30-31)
- God has given knowledge, creativity and wisdom through which humankind has been able to develop conventional (allopathic) medicine. We see conventional medicine as a gift from God, complementary with divine healing and as such should not be spurned but gratefully received. (1 Tim 5:23)
- The best description of Jesus' healing ministry can be found in Isa 61:1-3, which Jesus Himself quotes from in Luke 4:18-19 (ESV), "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."
- We understand from Isa 61:3 that God brings redemption out of the mess and painful reality of our lives, when we bring these things to Him, we receive new life in exchange, which is to build us up and to give Him glory.
- The Lord's Prayer provides an incredible overview of right priorities in the Kingdom of God, namely, the Supremacy of God and His glory, His tender care for His children, His deliverance from evil and the need for us to imitate the discipleship walk of Jesus (Matt 6:9-13). "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

Section 2

Ellel Ministries' Understanding of Biblical Healing, Prayer Ministry and their Wider Context

Whilst typically it is our human needs which cause us to seek God's help, we frequently find that God has a wider purpose in drawing us to Himself. Biblical healing is wider and deeper than merely feeling better and having issues resolved (whether they are physical, emotional, mental or spiritual). As we are being restored and Godly order is brought into our lives, He changes us at a deep level and in profound ways. Through the healing process, we become more of the person God designed us to be. We start reflecting more of God's character, displaying the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. We get to know Him, and His love, more and more. We grow in our discipleship walk and in bearing fruit for His kingdom.

As God heals and restores, He will address areas in our lives where we do not yet reflect Him as we should. His loving discipline is not always easy to accept, but we can trust that it will always be for our own good. For example, He may want us to look at sinful behaviours, character problems or wrong beliefs. Restoration of these things will not only lead to an increase in our well-being, but they also bring Him glory.

The wider context for our healing journey can only be properly understood in light of eternity. We learn from the Bible that one day Jesus will return for His Bride (the Church; God's children) and that He is preparing said Bride for life in eternity. He is returning for a radiant Bride, a people who know His love and who love Him, who are passionate about purity and holiness. It is from this position of humble submission that we confidently expect God to deepen and hasten His healing work within us as we see that Great Day approaching.

When God's healing is seen in this light, we realise that the pursuit of it is by no means a selfish, self-indulgent or self-focussed activity. Rather our objective is heartfelt submission to God and trust in His will for our lives, so that He may be glorified.

(Matt 25:6; John 14:3; Eph 4:22-24; Eph 5:1; Eph 5:25-27; Jas 4:6-7; Heb 12: 5-11; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Rev 2:19; Rev 19:7)

Our Understanding of Prayer Ministry

By prayer ministry, we mean the process in which people come to God together to seek Him for the benefit of the person pursuing healing. This is both in prayer (communication with God) and the practical application of His word in daily living. It is through relationship with God the Father, through His Son the Lord Jesus that the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit works supernaturally within to change hearts and bringing healing. Everything God gives is rooted in His grace and not our own merit. Our approach is based on seeking to

bring Godly order into a person's life, which can only be achieved by personal application of the plumbline of the Bible- God's written Word.

(Isa 40:29; Zech 4:6; Matt 18:20; 2 Tim 3:16-17; 1 Pet 5:5-7)

Prayer ministry is holistic in the sense that we believe God cares about every part of our being: spirit, soul and body. His heart is to bring restoration to every part of our being.

Both the person seeking healing, as well as others alongside, are active participants in this dynamic and relational process. The healing process is anchored in prayer but not limited to it. For example, time will need to be spent listening to the person seeking help, discussing/sharing biblical principles and building relationship. As God Himself is creative we have also found that opportunities for creative expression during prayer ministry are an important part of the healing journey. God speaks and moves by His Spirit in various ways. Prayer ministry seeks to facilitate this and allow for time and space for the restorative healing work to take place.

Prayer ministry differs from secular forms of help in that it is supernatural in nature, rooted in grace, built on God's Word and takes into account the spiritual realities of evil and sin. Prayer ministry helps people discern which problems arise from our sinful nature (where there might be wounding), where the enemy is involved, and what comes from the Spirit of God.

Whilst we encourage people to seek God's ways and adhere to His instructions, we are committed to respecting everyone's free will and to loving each person fully, irrespective of their choices. As such no-one will be coerced into conformity or condemned for their choices. Prayer ministry does not offer humanity's personal judgement but helps a person to seek God and apply His Word in their life.

(John 10:10; Rom 12:1-2; Eph 5:8-14; 2 Tim 2:24-26; Heb 4:12-13)

Ellel Ministries' Prayer Ministry Ethos

Everything Ellel Ministries does is based on the ethos of the model for ministry found in Luke 9:11, "He welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing". (ESV)

This tri-fold approach, 'Welcome, teach, heal' sits at the heart of our organisation and runs through every aspect of our work.

Welcome

We seek to extend the Lord's welcome to everyone who wants to come to Him, irrespective of who they are or of their life's circumstances. Jesus was known for His acceptance of people as they were, not looking down on anyone, His refusal to condemn and His fair

treatment of all. It is our aim to emulate the Lord's example and be as welcoming, warm and kind to everyone as we possibly can.

We seek to demonstrate our welcome through providing a loving environment and high standards of care on our premises. In order to be able to continually provide a safe and Godly environment, we require all our guests to abide by our house rules.

Teach

Jesus taught about the Kingdom of God and we seek to base all of our teachings on the unchanging truths of the Bible. As we seek to encourage Godly order in a person's life this can only be done by upholding Scriptural principles for what God's order and intentions look like. In this, our main concern is to be faithful to what the Christian Scriptures teach us, in the firm belief that God's intentions in providing these instructions are for our own benefit.

Application of God's truths in one's own life is encouraged, but no-one is coerced or pressured into a response. It is important to us that free-will choices of each individual are honoured at all times. If a person disagrees at any point, they are free to withdraw and their position is respected.

Heal

As we believe that only God can truly heal spirit, soul and body, we see our roles mostly as facilitators and intercessors, standing alongside our guests as they receive from and interact with God. We do not claim to be faith-healers, accredited counsellors, or therapists.

Section 3

Principles of Prayer Ministry

Recruitment, Training, Development and Oversight of Ministry Team

The Ellel Ministries ministry team comprise of staff team members as well as trained volunteers who are mature, born-again and Spirit-filled Christians. From their own personal experience and training, they have a desire to share God's love, truth and healing with those in need.

Trainee prayer ministry team are expected to have completed a minimum of training events prior to learning alongside experienced ministry team on our courses and retreats. However, completing one of these training programmes does not automatically qualify someone to join the ministry team. We undertake due diligence through an application, reference and interview process before accepting anyone onto the prayer ministry team. We encourage prayer ministers, wherever possible, to have the approval of their church minister and spouse to join our ministry team.

Every member of the ministry team is overseen by the local Ministry Manager who is an experienced member of the Ellel Ministries team and works closely with the Centre Director in ministry matters. Each member is regularly evaluated by the Ministry Manager as they continue with in-service training.

It should be noted that members of the ministry teams are not required to have secular qualifications and are not professionals. Some are pastors or church leaders or have accreditation with other Christian organisations, but this does not negate the requirement for specific Ellel Ministries training.

Overall Guidelines for Prayer Ministry

Following the model of Jesus as outlined in Luke 9:11, we seek to welcome without reservation or judgment, teach the principles of the Kingdom of God as laid out in Scripture, and seek God's healing through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

We welcome all who are seeking God for His help, His restoration and His healing with compassion, respect, care and kindness. We aim to create a safe atmosphere where a guest can share with confidence and trust. We remain non-judgemental (Matt 7:1-2), will speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15) and will always respect the free will of the person seeking help.

Teaching from the Bible about life in God's Kingdom is an integral part of ministering to someone, helping them see how root issues can continue to cause problems in their lives and where the core problems lie. Taking time to explore these principles can prove to be extremely fruitful and is an integral part of the healing process (John 8:32).

Healing takes place in the interaction with the guest and God, through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. Whilst there will be times for praying directly with a guest, the focus will remain on facilitating a personal direct connection with God which is the very heart of God's healing.

The role of the ministry team is an intercessory role, listening to both the person and God with the focus of facilitating this direct relational connection. It is not the role of the ministry team to act as an intermediary between the guest and God.

Intercession

Prayer is at the centre of all we do and the ministry team will be praying for God's direction, insight and wisdom before and during the time of ministry. There will be corporate times of prayer and intercession for the ministry team and event leaders. These times have proved to be pivotal in how the Lord works through relationship together on an event.

Boundaries for Prayer Ministry

We see prayer ministry as a broad term that encompasses times of talking, listening, praying, relational times and creative opportunities. There are a few simple boundaries that must be adhered to at all times:

- Our reliance is on the power and wisdom from the Spirit of God, not human beliefs, understanding or counsel. The Truth of Scripture must remain central to the ministry.
- The guest always has their free-will choice and should not be forced to do or believe anything against their will.
- We strive to create an atmosphere where guests feel free to say if they disagree with anything or feel uncomfortable during prayer ministry.
- Physical touch is important, but permission must always be sought from the guest and must always remain sensitive, dignified and appropriate.
- Neither party is expected to accept threatening or abusive language or behaviour.
- Ministry should always take place with at least two prayer ministers present (with at least one of the same gender as the ministry recipient) or in a corporate setting (e.g. during a course where ministry may be led by the teacher).
- We believe in the use of the spiritual gifts which include sharing prophetic words, pictures, dreams, words of knowledge and words of wisdom. It is however important to us that this is always done within Biblical boundaries and in an honouring and non-controlling manner. As such, all prophetic insights are shared for the recipient to weigh and test, and never declared to be God's ultimate truth. Particular care should be given with any prophetic word that is directional in nature. This must first be shared with the Ministry Manager and, if appropriate, then shared carefully with the

guest in a way that leaves room for the guest to consider, test and perhaps reject the word they received. We do not offer directional prophecies that speak into life situations such as telling a person to leave a church, spouse or job etc.

- Prayer ministry is provided for the time of the event only and further personal communication beyond this should not be pursued by any method unless explicitly approved by the overseeing Ministry Manager. As such personal details (phone, address, email etc.) should not be divulged by either party. Any further communication should take place via the centre Ministry Office only.
- Prayer ministry as a member of the Ellel Ministries ministry team can only take place during official Ellel Ministries events or acting as a designated representative of Ellel (with the full support and under the authority of a Centre Director) at an external Ministries event. Any prayer ministry unconnected with Ellel Ministries should be approved by, and be done under the covering of, a church or other Christian organisation.
- We understand the privilege it is to hear our guests' stories and life issues and what is shared is important and precious to God too. We work to a confidentiality model that ensures safety and dignity whilst also being supported in compassion and prayer. The only exception to this is when a guest shares something of a criminal nature that requires reporting to the relevant authorities.

Section 4

Formal Policies and Procedures

Confidentiality

Every ministry team member is required to sign our Confidentiality Agreement.

Complaints, Misconduct and Discipline

Should a guest wish to report a complaint or a case of misconduct against a ministry team member, this should be raised with the overseeing Ministry Manager and/or Centre Director as soon as possible and preferably in person where notes will be taken for further investigation and/or the purposes of subsequent disciplinary measures. Every report is treated seriously and in confidence.

Safeguarding

We only minister to guests over the age of 18 and would ask that a suitable carer be present for those considered vulnerable individuals. We abide by national safeguarding legislation and use a Self-Declaration Form to ensure due diligence during the process of recruiting ministry team.

Terms and Conditions of Receiving Ministry

Please be aware that all of our guests are asked to agree to and sign our terms and conditions of receiving ministry and taking part in our events.