



CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS' CONVENTION



STEADFAST HOPE: INVESTING IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

Vernon David



“Return to your rest, my soul for the LORD has been good to you” Psalms 116:7

That is not poetry for calm days.
That is theology spoken **under pressure.**

*“The cords of death entangled me;
the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.” Ps 116:3*

“Return to your rest, O my soul...”

This tells us something profound:

Rest is not automatic.

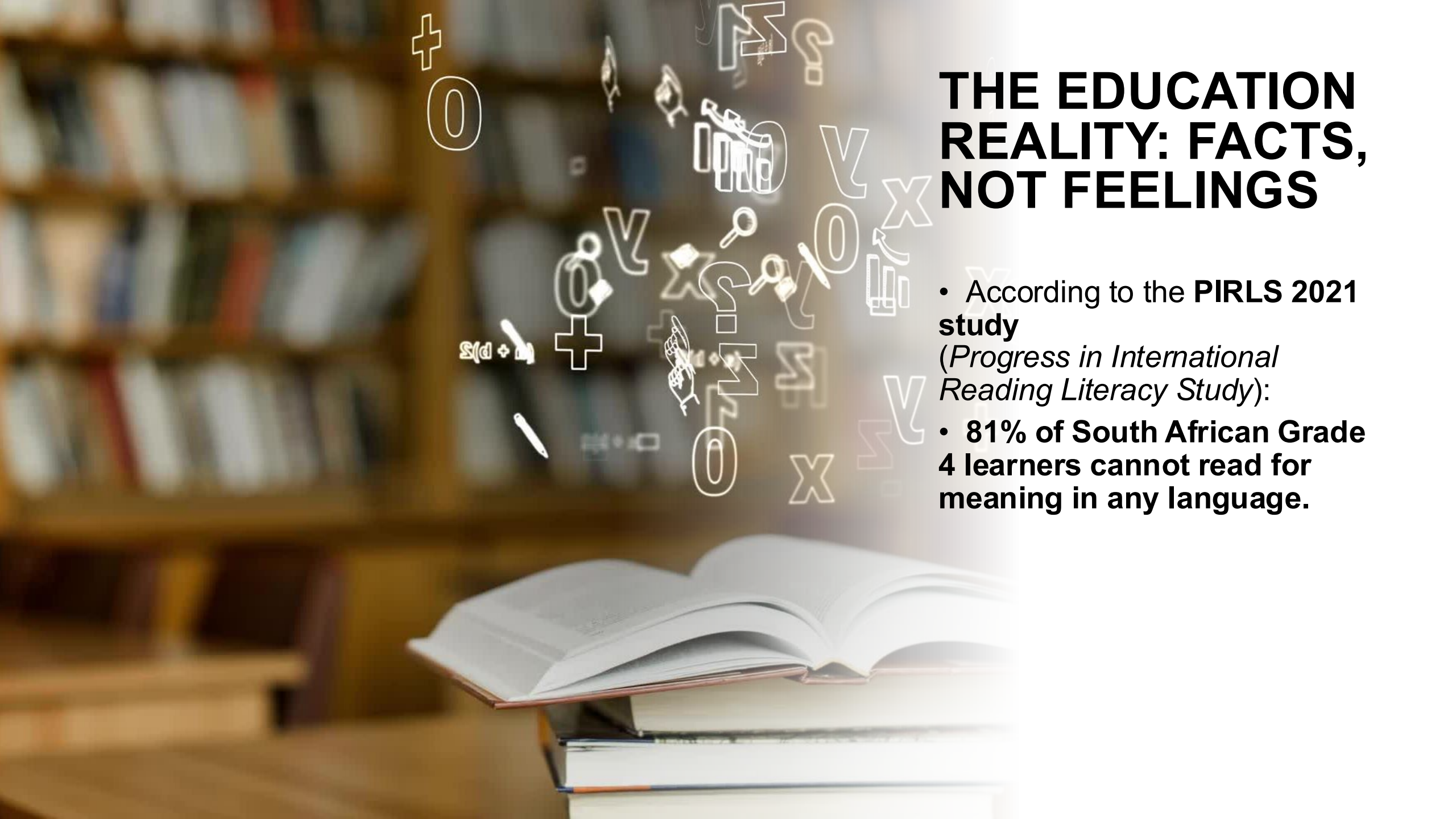
Rest must sometimes be commanded.

**Fatigue is not a failure of faith.
But staying in fatigue without returning to rest
will erode faith over time.**

**David anchors his present by
rehearsing God's past faithfulness.**

That is how steadfast hope is born.





THE EDUCATION REALITY: FACTS, NOT FEELINGS

- According to the **PIRLS 2021 study** (*Progress in International Reading Literacy Study*):
- **81% of South African Grade 4 learners cannot read for meaning in any language.**

This is not just an
educational crisis.
This is a **moral and
spiritual crisis.**

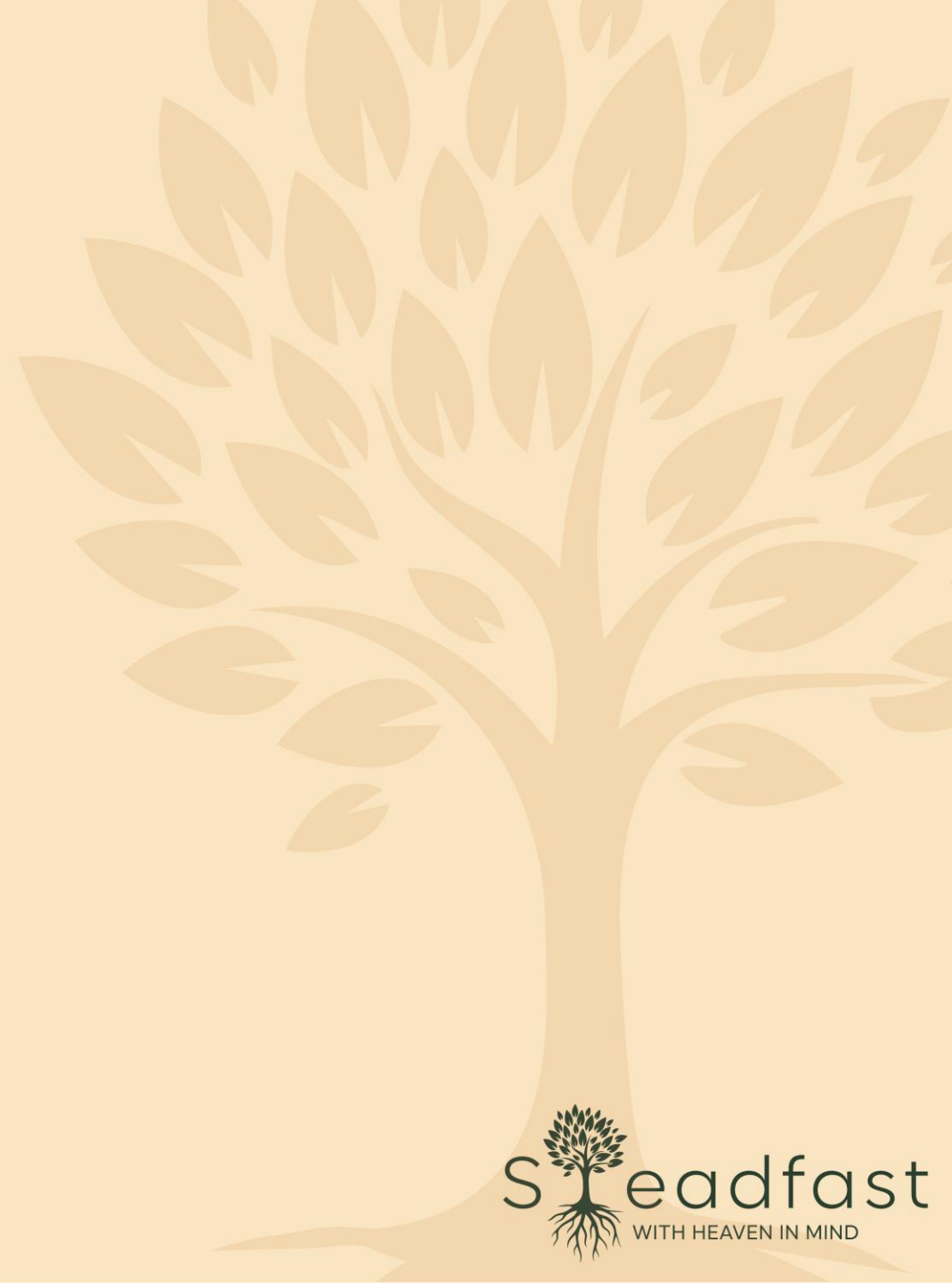
**Christian educators
are not optional
extras in South Africa.
You are frontline
hope-bearers.**

STEADFAST HOPE: AN ANCHOR FOR THE SOUL

Hebrews 6:19 says:

“We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.”

An anchor is only
valuable when the
waters are rough.



“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord...” Psalm 78:4

What one generation fails to teach, the next generation pays for. This is why education is never neutral.

“I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE”

Faith that remains silent
rarely survives pressure.

Your tone teaches before your content does.

“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.”

1 Corinthians 3:6

INVESTING IN FUTURE GENERATIONS

Isaiah 54:13 declares:

“All your children shall be taught by the Lord.”

The most powerful investments in this nation are not financial.

They are formational.

STAND FIRM IN A WEARY LAND

Galatians 6:9 says:

“Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Are your learners more anchored than when they arrived?

“Return to your rest, O my soul...”

Steadfast hope is built:

- One classroom at a time,
- One faithful teacher at a time,
- One generation rooted in Christ, not circumstance

South Africa will not be rebuilt first by
policies or programmes —
**but by people anchored in God's Word
and shaped in Hope.**