

# Daily Prayer Guide JUNE 2011

## Wednesday 1 June 2011

### Focus on South African businesses

Pray for support for all the small businesses that are battling to make ends meet and for strength for those individuals who had companies that were liquidated during the past months. Ask for meaningful projects to be developed to create employment and that people will not give up or consider suicide because they are facing a difficult time. (Roz Messenger. Email: [roz@safcec.org.za](mailto:roz@safcec.org.za)). Pray that people will not take irresponsible financial risks and that parents will ask for God's guidance when children want to borrow money for new or risky businesses. Ask that they will not take emotional decisions. Pray that parents will give their children sensible and practical advice and for the children to be receptive so that it does not cause estrangement. Pray that pensioners and older people will not invest their money in new, high risk companies or projects to make quick or easy money.

### Focus on Zimbabwe

In Zimbabwe, a shocking number of children are facing an uncertain future as 47% of the population is undernourished, 1.8 million children are orphans, and life expectancy in the country has dropped to 44 years. Although the economy has recently started to improve, more than 80% of working-age people are unemployed. Pray for Zimbabwean children, who have suffered so much through no fault of their own. Ask that they will come to know God as their Provider and Protector. Pray for Viva Network Zimbabwe, that works together with churches to serve around 4,000 children at risk in 10 deprived communities around Harare. Ask for God to touch the lives of thousands of children. (Children at Risk Prayer News. Website: <http://www.viva.org/> or e-mail: [pray@viva.org](mailto:pray@viva.org)).

## Thursday 2 June 2011

### 10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 1

**REVIVE:** Our Father who is in heaven... We ask Him

- to revive and unite His people as one family before Him.
- for wayward Christians to repent and return to God as Father, learning to obey and trust Him.
- for fresh movements of prayer, seeking the throne of grace with persistence.

(Global Day of Prayer, P.O. Box 3856, Somerset West, 7129. Tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: [info@globaldayofprayer.com](mailto:info@globaldayofprayer.com)).

### Focus on G8 & G20 meetings in 2011

At the time of printing, it remained unknown exactly when and where in France the next G8 summit will take place, or whether it will once again go side by side with the G20 summit. (Website: [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-06/27/c\\_13371172.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-06/27/c_13371172.htm)). The heads of the G20 nations have met semi-annually at G20 summits since 2008. The most recent was in Seoul on November 11–12, 2010. Starting in 2011, G20 summits will be held annually. (Website: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G-20\\_major\\_economies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G-20_major_economies)). Please pray for those involved in these meetings, to hear God's voice for their own lives, their responsibilities and how they can influence others to accept biblical principles.

## **Friday 3 June 2011**

### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 2**

**REVEAL:** ...sanctify Your name...

- for the truth of God's character to be exalted and honoured.
- for God to distinguish Himself from every false god and to expose every false word spoken about Him.
- for the Word of God to be proclaimed to all people and in every place on earth.
- for the Scriptures to be translated and made available in every language.

### **A call to RETURN**

"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "Return to Me with all your heart, and with fasting and weeping and mourning" (Joel 2:12, NASB).

Read Joel 2:12-14 aloud. Consider how the present hour could be a critical moment as in Joel's day, a "yet even now" moment. For different reasons, many of God's people have drifted away from Him. But now He is calling us to return with all our hearts. Returning to God means more than going back to church and turning away from sin. It means turning our full attention to God, coming close to Him with confidence in His amazing love. As we turn to Him, He desires to turn toward us. His mighty love not only rescues us from our wrongs, but bestows blessings upon us, empowering us to offer Him extravagant, grateful worship. (Global Day of Prayer, P.O. Box 3856, Somerset West, 7129. Tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: [info@globaldayofprayer.com](mailto:info@globaldayofprayer.com)).

## **Saturday 4 June 2011**

### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 3**

**RULE:** ...May Your kingdom come...

- for many to be drawn by the power of the gospel to submit their lives to Jesus Christ, in order to love and follow Him as King.
- for Christ's followers to walk in the fullness of God's Spirit so that they can live in the likeness of Christ.
- for the Lordship of Christ to influence every part of our cities and societies.

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### **Focus on the World Weekend of Prayer for Children at Risk: 4-5 June 2011**

Viva has facilitated the World Weekend of Prayer for Children at Risk since 1995. Those attending this weekend have grown in numbers over the years, and now millions of people join them on the first weekend of June each year to pray with and for vulnerable children. Consider coming together as well to pray that children all around the world will know the love of Jesus in their everyday lives, and be able to claim for themselves God's incredible offer of abundant life. (Website: <http://www.viva.org/wwp.aspx>).

## **Sunday 5 June 2011**

### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 4**

**TRANSFORM:** ...and may Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...

- for God's people to bring the influence and blessing of Christ into every aspect of commerce, arts, education and governance in ways that bring lasting transformation.

- for God's wisdom to be upon our government leaders, bringing change that increases righteousness and justice.
- for the righteousness, peace and joy of Christ's kingdom to be a reality in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **A call to GATHER**

"Gather the people...and let them say, 'Spare Your people, O LORD...Why should the people say, 'Where is their God?'" (Joel 2:16-17, NASB).

Read Joel 2:15-17 aloud. To repent as a people, we must come together before God. He wants to encounter us as a people. That's why He is summoning us to break normal routines in order to assemble before Him in gatherings large and small. It's a time to interrupt daily habits of life, fasting from our normal diet, even moving from familiar rituals of worship to assemble in special ways. Why this urgency? Because something great is at stake: God's glory. Let's allow our hearts to be grieved by what we, as God's people, have done to bring shame upon His name. To the watching world, it can appear as if we have no God. Consider what brings sorrow to the heart of God, and pray that He will transform us to bring Him the glory He deserves. (Global Day of Prayer, P.O. Box 3856, Somerset West, 7129. Tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: [info@globaldayofprayer.com](mailto:info@globaldayofprayer.com)).

### **Focus on the World Weekend of Prayer for Children at Risk – 4-5 June 2011**

This weekend is an opportunity for people everywhere to lift up to God the issues facing children at risk, but it also gives the children themselves a chance to speak out about their rights, in public, citywide prayer and praise events. Pray for the projects and networks that will be putting on events over this weekend. Pray that God would come in power, answer prayers and make a tangible difference to children's lives. (Children at Risk Prayer News. Website: <http://www.viva.org/> or email: [pray@viva.org](mailto:pray@viva.org)).

### **Monday 6 June 2011**

#### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 5**

**PROVIDE:** ...Give us this day our daily bread... We ask Him

- for the basic needs of food, water and health care for the poor, for the sick, for refugees and for children.
- that God's people would become, with the help of His Spirit, agents of healing and change, bringing forth the abundance, justice and peace that God desires.
- for God's people to break patterns of poverty in their communities, fulfilling God's promise of blessing amidst all peoples.
- for Christians to act with compassion and persistence to eradicate diseases and to serve well in the aftermath of epidemics such as HIV/AIDS.

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### **Tuesday 7 June 2011**

#### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 6**

**FORGIVE:** ...Forgive us our sins...We ask the Holy Spirit

- to move the hearts of men and women so that they will be able to see how God is grieved and how their lives are being destroyed by sin.

- to empower people to abandon patterns of sin and find grace to renounce allegiance to powers of darkness.
- for recognition of and repentance for sins that bring about war, poverty and injustice.

### **A call to HOPE**

“Then the LORD will be jealous for his land and take pity on His people...Be not afraid...be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things” (Joel 2:18, 21).

Read Joel 2:18-22 out loud. We should be eager to repent because God is jealous for the honour of His name and His people. Because of God’s great love, our repentance should be bold and fearless. Our God will contend with the forces that devastate our communities. As strong as the evil may be, God will do even greater things. Such hope brings joy as we sincerely turn to God, knowing that He desires to bring great goodness throughout the earth, transforming our cities, restoring our economies and healing our lands. (Global Day of Prayer, P.O. Box 3856, Somerset West, 7129. Tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: [info@globaldayofprayer.com](mailto:info@globaldayofprayer.com)).

### **Wednesday 8 June 2011**

#### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 7**

**RECONCILE:** ...as we forgive those who sin against us...

- to break the cycles of resentment, revenge and racism so that relationships are restored.
- for signs of Christ’s reconciling power in the midst of militarised conflict, revealing God’s desire to end all wars.
- to restore relationships between women and men, to bring reconciliation in marriages and to renew children’s relationships with their parents.
- for those who suffer for the name of Christ to endure persecution in the Spirit and grace of Christ.

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### **Focus on Jewish People: Shavuot 8-9 June 2011**

Jewish people celebrate Shavuot (Pentecost), which usually takes place seven weeks after Passover and commemorates Moses being given the Ten Commandments by God, following the Exodus from Egypt. The festival lasts for two days. Some ultra-orthodox Jews often stay up all night on the first night to study the Bible. (Christian Friends of Israel. Tel./fax: 012 361 1437. Website: [http://www.somethingjewish.co.uk/jewish\\_festivals/index.htm](http://www.somethingjewish.co.uk/jewish_festivals/index.htm) or e-mail: [allwiese@lantic.net](mailto:allwiese@lantic.net)). Let us never become tired of praying for the salvation of the Jewish people. Ask God in particular over the next two days to bring to life the Word as they are studying it, revealing to them Jesus Christ as the Saviour of whom was prophesied.

### **Thursday 9 June 2011**

#### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 8**

**LEAD:** ...And lead us not into temptation...We ask Him

- for Christians to be filled with such love and zeal to please God that they are unmoved by the enticement of materialism and sexual perversity.
- for God's people to continue walking in the light of His ways, and wisdom to fulfil His purposes throughout the earth.
- that Christ would guide business leaders and leaders in education and government, so that the curse of corruption would be overcome throughout cities and entire economies.

### **A call to CELEBRATE**

"You will have plenty to eat and...praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you" (Joel 2:26, NASB).

Read Joel 2:23-27 aloud. When God's people return to Him with all their heart, there is the promise of tangible changes and great joy in their communities. Where there has been a curse of oppressive poverty, God desires to bring forth abundance so that many will gratefully praise His name. He will act wondrously in both goodness and power, surprising the world by revealing His presence among His people.

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### **Friday 10 June 2011**

#### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 9**

**OVERCOME:** ...but deliver us from evil...We ask Him

- that He will restrain satanic powers, revealing the truth of the gospel, liberating many people to follow Christ.
- that people will be delivered from idolatry, witchcraft, demonic oppression and depression.
- that the powers of darkness which continue to corrupt and dominate businesses, governments and cities will be broken in the Name of Jesus Christ.

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### **Saturday 11 June 2011**

#### **10 Days of night-and-day prayer: Day 10**

**GLORIFY:** ...for Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. We ask Him

- that signs of Christ's kingdom will so fill the earth that many will be moved to celebrate the hope of His coming.
- that Christ's power will be seen in the humility and compassionate service of His people.
- that Jesus would be honoured openly, worshipped extravagantly and glorified globally.

### **A call to REVEAL**

"I will pour out my Spirit on all people...And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved" (Joel 2:28, 32).

Read Joel 2:28-32 aloud and consider how these promises could be fulfilled in greater ways than ever before. Turn to God with expectancy. He is about to advance His purpose

to reveal His salvation globally. Even during days of dreadful shaking and difficulty, He will pour out His Spirit so that people all over the earth—elders and children, poor and rich, men and women—will resound with the call of God. From every race and in every place, people will hear and speak of God's call. Many will be saved to the glory of His name.

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### **Ninety Days of Blessing: 13 June to 10 September 2011**

Those who pray together can become those who serve together, bringing practical, transformational blessings to their communities. To help you dream and plan about how you might become part of the answer to your prayers, check out 90 Days of Blessing at [www.globaldayofprayer.com](http://www.globaldayofprayer.com) and download the 90 Day Prayer guide, Seek His Face pamphlet and other information.

### **Sunday 12 June 2011**

#### **Pentecost Sunday: Global Day of Prayer**

Christians in almost all 220 countries in the world will unite today in a day of repentance and prayer. As the church we will ask forgiveness for our sins, pray for our countries, the healing of the nations and transformation of communities and nations around the world. We will pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the church like in the book of Acts. Acts 4:31 says that after they prayed, God shook the place and the people were filled with the Holy Spirit. Time and again over the centuries, God has poured out His Spirit in thousands of places around the world. Let us then cry out that God would once more visit Christians in the tens of thousands of places in countries where they will gather today. Let us pray with faith and boldness (Acts 1:8), for signs and miracles and for healings and powerful deeds to accompany the manifestations of the gifts of the Holy Spirit (Acts 4:32; Heb.2:4).

A Prayer for the World: A special prayer which will be read in unison at every Global Day of Prayer gathering has been prepared and translated into many languages. Many of these translations are available at website: [www.globaldayofprayer.com](http://www.globaldayofprayer.com)

#### **Practical tips for spending today in prayer:**

Pray with your local congregation on Pentecost morning: Devote portions of your Pentecost Sunday morning service to united prayer. Announce the fact that millions across the world are gathering to pray for the glory of Christ and the transformation of all nations. Read the Prayer for the World aloud as a congregation. Share testimonies of how people have been praying during the 10 Days. Consider combining services with other nearby churches. Gather in homes or assemble in public venues. On the afternoon and evening of Pentecost, all over the world, Christians are planning to gather in their homes, assemble in stadiums, public auditoriums and open squares. Some meetings will be small. Others will be large, but each one will be praying with the same heart and vision of repentance and hope. As at the first Pentecost—when the blessing of Christ was manifested on the streets and open public settings— we'll worship God openly in the name of Christ and pray for the healing and blessing of the nations. As much as possible, we are seeking to gather in places beyond the walls of our church buildings. (Global Day of Prayer, P.O. Box 3856, Somerset West, 7129. Tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax:

086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: [info@globaldayofprayer.com](mailto:info@globaldayofprayer.com)).

### **Global Day of Prayer**

On 21 March 2001, more than 40,000 people gathered at the Newlands Rugby stadium for a day of prayer and supplication. Since 2005, this day of prayer has grown into a Global Day of Prayer that repeats every year on Pentecost Sunday with 10 Days of night-and-day prayer preceding it. For two consecutive years now, representatives of all 220 countries in the world partook in this day of prayer, and we trust for the same to happen again this year as we celebrate 11 years of prayer around the globe.

The Global Day of Prayer follows the three parts of the beginning of the church: Ten Days of constant prayer leading up to Pentecost, one day of prayer witnessed by the whole city, and the 90 Days of blessing that followed. For this reason the Global Day of Prayer has three parts: [1] Ten Days of constant prayer: 2-11 June 2011, beginning on Ascension Day. On 2 June, millions of Christians will find ways to pray night and day throughout the ten days leading up to Pentecost. [2] The Global Day of Prayer, 12 June 2011.

On Pentecost Sunday, Christians in many countries will assemble to pray. Some will assemble in large stadiums and other public venues. Many will gather in small groups or in homes. [3] Ninety days of blessing: 13 June - 10 September 2011. As at the first Pentecost, transformed Christians transform their communities as they offer themselves to God as instruments through which their prayers can be answered. To register or for more details, contact: (Global Day of Prayer, P.O. Box 3856, Somerset West, 7129. Tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: [info@globaldayofprayer.com](mailto:info@globaldayofprayer.com)).

### **13 June-10 September 2011: 90 Days of Blessing**

To help you keep growing in prayer during the 90 Days of Blessing, make use of the excellent resources available:

The 90-Day Prayer guide. A daily guide to pray towards transformational blessing.

Seek His Face pamphlet. Learn to devote yourself to God daily with an hour of prayer. (This pamphlet will help you to spend longer time in prayer).

24/7 Prayer Watches. Many will be continuing 24/7 prayer in many styles and ways during the 90 Days of Blessing.

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### **Monday 13 June 2011**

#### **Salvation focus: Sidewalk salespeople**

Numerous individuals earn their daily income from selling goods on the sidewalks of our cities and towns, whether it is food, clothes, art, crafts or needlework. Often they are exposed to theft, violence and crime, loss of their produce or goods, subsequently not gaining an income from it. Please pray for their salvation, that they will cry out to God, continuously pray for passers-by, and in so doing, shine God's light in their communities.

### **Focus on the Congo**

A new law has been passed in the Congo, giving children of indigenous populations a legal right to gain access to healthcare, education and protection. Praise the Lord for this answer to prayer. Pray that other countries would see the example that the Congo has set and seek to follow in its footsteps. Pray that the government would be vigilant in putting this law into effect, and that Congolese children really will have better access to health, education and protection. (Children at Risk Prayer News. Website: <http://www.viva.org/> or e-mail: [pray@viva.org](mailto:pray@viva.org)).

### **Statistics on children around the world**

An estimated 28 % of the world's population is under the age of 15.

An estimated 41.2% of Africa's population is under the age of 15.

Uganda is the country in the world with the highest percentage of children, namely 49.3%.

Bulgaria has the lowest percentage of children under 15 years of age, namely 13.7%.

People under the age of 15 are at the most receptive stage in their lives.

Of the 110 million children worldwide who are not receiving any education, two-thirds are girls. Of the world's 875 million illiterate adults, two-thirds are women.

(Source: <http://esa.un.org> and <http://www.unicef.org>).

### **Tuesday 14 June 2011**

#### **Revival focus on the poor and needy**

Since the 1880s there has been a slow transition in the church to focus more and more on the salvation of people. Over time, the other equally important Biblical mandate to take care of the poor and needy, has been somewhat neglected. Pray for the church for a new understanding of the importance to care for the needs of the poor and needy, irrespective of whether they are Christians or not.

### **Focus on children at risk in India**

The largest number of newborn deaths occurs in South Asia, of which India bears the greatest burden of 1 million. At age 1-4, girls have a 50% higher chance of dying than boys. Pray for families, that they will not neglect the health of their daughters because of poverty or lack of knowledge, and value and care for boys and girls equally. Pray for the complete vaccination of little girls below the age of 5 and a balanced diet for mothers who are weak and unable to feed their babies. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

### **Wednesday 15 June 2011**

#### **Focus on establishing 24/7 houses of prayer**

Lord, pour out Your Spirit of prayer and supplication on Your church worldwide. Grant that houses of prayer will be established all over the world. We ask that believers will faithfully pray the promises from Your Word night and day so that Your kingdom may come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matt.6:10).

### **Focus on the economy, business sector and labour**

Over the past 10 years we have seen a steady increase in strikes and unrest all over our country. It has escalated at an alarming rate since 2006. There are clear signs that the same trend will continue in the next few years. Please pray unceasingly about strikes and unrest that we see daily on TV and read about in the newspapers. Ask for God's

order to rest upon the hearts and minds of workers; those who strike as well as those who want to continue working but are afraid to, because they are under threat if they do.

### **Breakthrough: The Word reborn in Tanzania**

For the first time the people living in the central rugged mountains of Tanzania are able to read the Christmas story in their own language from the Gospels of Mark, Luke and John. Missionaries are also teaching literacy among the 800,000 Lughulu people. About 50% profess Christianity, but most of them still live in fear of witchcraft and evil spirits. We trust that the Scriptures will open their eyes to the truth and free them from this bondage. The New Testament is expected to be completed by the end of 2012. The Old Testament may take another 5-6 years. (Source: [www.theseedcompany.org](http://www.theseedcompany.org)).

### **Thursday 16 June 2011**

#### **Revival focus: Poor and needy**

In Luke 4:18-19 we read that Jesus said: "The Lord's Spirit has come to me, because he has chosen me to tell the good news to the poor. The Lord has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to free everyone who suffers, and to say, 'This is the year the Lord has chosen.'" Ask the Holy Spirit to open your spiritual eyes with an understanding of these words and also to know how you can make a difference.

#### **Special prayer focus: Youth Day**

South Africans still celebrate Youth Day on 16 June every year. Please pray that the need to revenge the bloodshed and injustice associated with this day will come to an end, and that South Africa's redemptive calling for reconciliation will be released to the nations of the world. Please pray Ps.78:2-8 for the youth and children of South Africa, and also that the younger generation will hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and obey the call to follow Him. Pray for young people to be set free from worldly and entertainment temptations and for protection from wickedness in the form of pornography, sexual abuse and exploitation, drug and alcohol addictions, choosing the wrong role-models and from selfish ambitions that lead to power-hungry and greed-filled lifestyles.

### **Friday 17 June 2011**

#### **World Mission Centre**

A team from World Mission Centre is visiting three people groups where churches have been planted through Project Focus in Angola. Praise the Lord for these breakthroughs. Please pray for safety on the road and easy border crossings. Also ask for favour with government officials to discuss various issues related to the newly established churches. (World Mission Centre's, tel.: 012 343 1165. Websites: [www.liveschool.org](http://www.liveschool.org) or [www.worldmissioncentre.com](http://www.worldmissioncentre.com)).

#### **Focus on abortion: 13 abortion clinics consider adoption option**

About 13 abortion clinics recently agreed to refer clients to Bethany Christian Services in the USA! Bethany visited multiple clinics, only to find that most of the clinic employees were uneducated on the topic of adoption. Now 13 clinics have agreed to refer clients who are interested in adoption or too far advanced in their pregnancies to Bethany. Pray for the women Bethany interacts with as a result of this publicity. Pray that the young women coming to them will encounter Christ and choose everlasting life

for both themselves and their unborn child. (Website: <http://www.mnnonline.org/article/15213>).

### **Breakthrough:**

Almost 1 million young people in Africa committed to the international initiative “true love waits”

From April to October 2010, more than 70,000 young people in Africa committed to Biblical purity through True Love Waits International, bringing the total number of commitments to more than 959,000 since LifeWay Christian Resources launched its strategic initiative there in the summer of 2007! (Breaking Christian News. Website: <http://www.lifeway.com/tlw/> or e-mail: [editor@breakingchristiannews.com](mailto:editor@breakingchristiannews.com)). Pray that God will help them to stay committed.

### **Saturday 18 June 2011**

#### **Focus on children at risk because of gender**

Gender discrimination exists also within the church in many countries. Jesus constantly challenged the gender dynamics in His time. Pray for the community to accept more women helpers, missionaries, ministers etc. in the church without discriminating against men in the process. Also ask for Sunday schools to focus on the work of women in the Bible. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

#### **Focus on the Word: Precept Ministries SA**

Precept Ministries SA is hosting their summits in George and P.E. during June and August. Pray that folks who desire to be established in God's Word would hear about this great opportunity and that they would register. Pray too that all those attending the workshops would benefit greatly by being trained in the Inductive Study Method, and for it to result in many new leaders being equipped to lead and facilitate their own classes. (Precept Ministries SA, P.O. Box 539, Howard Place, 7450. Tel./Fax: 021 531 1836. Website: [www.precept.org.za](http://www.precept.org.za) or e-mail: [info@precept.org.za](mailto:info@precept.org.za)).

### **Sunday 19 June 2011**

#### **Personal revival: When the answer tarries**

Most people want to know what God's will is for their lives. The second most frequently asked question is why their prayers are not answered. Sometimes they simply ask: Why Lord? We often try to defend God when people ask questions about His ways, but we don't have answers to all questions. Only God knows everything and God is God enough to answer for Himself. The Holy Spirit is God's Advocate. The Holy Spirit Himself reveals the will of God. Contemplate the following verse especially when you do not understand why you do not receive answers to prayer: It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter (Prov.25:2). ...then I saw all the work of God that a man cannot find out; the work that is done under the sun. For though a man labours to discover it, yet he will not find it; moreover, though a wise man attempts to know it, he will not be able to find it (Eccl.8:17). (Taken from “100 Vrae oor Gebed” by Bennie Mostert).

#### **Focus on refugees: Refugee Sunday**

Today is Refugee Sunday, and Refugee Week will be celebrated from 19-25 June this year. Today congregations are invited to explore refugee experiences across the

continents and initiate activities such as exhibitions, film screenings, and spend some time to pray for refugees worldwide who have been forced to flee their homes in order to escape persecution or war. (Website: [www.refugeehighway.net](http://www.refugeehighway.net) or e-mail: [info@refugeehighway.net](mailto:info@refugeehighway.net)). Ask the Lord how you can be involved in mobilising prayer for refugees worldwide.

### **Monday 20 June 2011**

#### **Salvation focus: Flower sellers**

Many businesses employ individuals to sit at fixed places at the side of the road to sell flowers. Pray for the Christian passers-by to witness about Jesus to them in a humble but profound way, turning their hearts to embrace Him themselves. Also pray for those who are Christians to openly witness of Jesus' love to their customers who come to buy flowers for a loved one.

#### **Focus on children who are sexually abused**

Of the 60,000 reported sexual harassment cases, about half are child abuse cases, taking into account that most cases go unreported. About 90% of these children were molested by someone they knew. Of those molesting children, 97% had been molested themselves and have regular access to pornography. Consider becoming practically involved in the Waardevol vir Jesus-campaign by giving your time, help and expertise as the Lord leads you. Ask for many others to do the same. (Straatwerk, tel.: 021 930 8055 or e-mail: [lisa@straatwerk.org.za](mailto:lisa@straatwerk.org.za)).

### **Tuesday 21 June 2011**

#### **Revival focus: Poor and needy**

The blessing of God brings healing, hope and restoration for people, also for the poor. Identify two or three poor communities, families or individuals close by and pray the blessing in Num. 6:24-26 over them this week: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. If it is possible, go to these areas or individuals and pray for them.

#### **Focus on children at risk: Boy or girl?**

Most often girls feel unloved and don't have equal opportunities as their brothers. Many girls don't even get the chance to be born, as they are aborted as soon as prenatal sex determination shows it is a girl. Globally, nine million more girls than boys miss out on school every year. While their brothers continue to attend classes or pursue their hobbies and play, girls join the women to do the bulk of the housework. Pray for the girls to eat properly and also have healthcare. Pray that the church will take the lead in advocating the issues of gender discrimination. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

#### **Breakthrough: Liberation for Sudanese slaves**

Almost 400 Southern Sudanese slaves were liberated and returned to their country as part of a slave liberation program. Over 35,000 Southern Sudanese slaves, mainly from the Dinka tribe, remain in slavery in Northern Sudan. Please pray for breakthroughs for the people of Sudan, especially those in slavery. Also continue praying for the restoration of this country, the preaching of the gospel and many open doors to

distribute Bibles throughout the whole of this country. (NewsBytes. Website: <http://www.om.org/en/news/newsbytes>).

### **Wednesday 22 June 2011**

#### **Focus on establishing 24/7 houses of prayer**

Pray for the work of the Jerusalem House of Prayer in Israel under the leadership of Tom Hess. Ask for their protection, for favour and that this ministry will continue to grow.

#### **Focus on the economy, business sector and labour**

Lift up in prayer those who are presently striking, willingly and especially unwillingly. There are many dark forces that take advantage of labour unrest so that they can inflict pain on the innocent. Often it is the workers that suffer most because of strikes. Please pray that God will raise up many believers, willing to faithfully pray for breakthroughs in sensitive situations. Take care not to become emotionally involved in issues, but focus on the Word and pray that God will perform His will.

### **Thursday 23 June 2011**

#### **Revival focus: Poor and needy**

Ask the Lord to open your eyes to really see the poor and needy around you and to feel compassion for them. Ask Him to show you that every single individual is a human being, created by Him. Most of us are so overwhelmed by the need of the millions of poor people and the devastation or starvation that we see on television and other media that it becomes too much for us. The easy way out often seems to simply look the other way. Apathy takes hold of us. Ask the Lord to awaken your heart, and that you will clearly know what He wants you to do. While here on earth, you have thought only of filling your own stomachs and having a good time... (James 5:5-6).

#### **Focus on children at risk: Domestic workers**

Child domestic workers are a familiar sight in most developing countries. Children as young as five years old are sent out of the home to earn money. In India, roughly one in five children under the age of fourteen, work as a domestic help outside the family. Pray for God's wisdom and strength for institutions involved in rescue and rehabilitation of abused children. Pray for poor families who have to send their daughters to the city to work. Ask God to intervene so that whole families would come to know and trust Jesus Christ as their Saviour. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

### **Friday 24 June 2011**

#### **Focus on children at risk of trafficking**

Millions of children are trafficked or coerced across borders to be sold for sex, illegal adoption, to engage in criminal activities, to work as domestic servants, beggars and fight as soldiers. In India, 73 million children under the age of ten are working in hazardous conditions, missing out on education and facing serious risks of injury, illness and death. Pray for organisations that rescue trafficked girls; that they will financially be able to offer these girls alternative circumstances. Pray for a change in attitude towards sex workers, so that we view them without prejudice. Pray that law enforcement agencies will become more active in rescuing the trafficked girls. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

### **Reconciliation at summer camp**

Much change is taking place in the lives of 1,300 children at Russian Ministries summer camps. They braved harassment from local officials to share the good news of Jesus in a region deeply divided by ethnic tensions. As the kids learned to love God, they also learned to love one another, bringing healing for many who have been hurt by teasing and rejection. Praise the Lord for testimonies like these. Carry on praying that God will continue to strengthen the Russian church through this ministry. (Website: <http://www.MNNonline.org/article/14916>).

### **Women-2-Pray: Is it okay to cry?**

I remember someone once giving me the verse John 11:35 on my birthday: "And Jesus wept." Just that! In His grace the Lord was preparing my heart for a very difficult year ahead. I started studying tears and weeping in the Bible and found that to cry is a wonderful gift. The following are just some of the instances when specifically God-fearing people in the Bible wept and lamented. Turn your tears into prayers and God will heal your soul in a special way.

**At a funeral** (Gen.23:2; 50:1). Many people say we should not cry at a funeral because the person is with Jesus. That is very cruel. It is natural to miss a person that has been part of your life. Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to heal your heart for losing someone special.

**When you are betrayed** (Gen.27:34; Heb.12:17). Nothing hurts as badly as when you are betrayed and did not see it coming. Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to forgive and release the person who sinned against you.

**With joy because of answered prayer** (Gen.29:11). When the long-awaited answer to prayer comes, we easily cry. Turn your tears into prayers and give thanks to the Lord who is faithful and true.

**For our sins and the sins of others** (Num.11:4, 12:13). When you know you or someone else did something terribly wrong. Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to show you His goodness that leads to repentance, forgiveness of sin and the joy of salvation.

**For giving up your inheritance and country** (Ruth 1:9). Many give up money, property and an inheritance to keep peace in a family, to start a new life in a different country, or to turn to Jesus Christ. Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to become your ALL in ALL; to wipe out the bad memories and heal your soul of the loss.

**Over barrenness** (1 Sam.1:10). More than ever, couples are crying out to the Lord for their own offspring. There is nothing like a woman yearning for a child of her own. Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to strengthen you until the time that His answer to your prayer becomes clear. Ask Him for His supernatural peace in your soul.

**When a child or a spiritual child fails** (1 Sam.15:35). How often you invest in a person who had no opportunities, not even of knowing the Lord. And then they just throw away everything and back into your face. Turn your tears into prayers and give this child over

to His care and guidance which will far surpass your own ability or protection. Let go and let Him lay hold of that child.

**Over wrong behaviour and decisions** (1 Sam.24:16). Do you ever regret saying or doing something really bad which is impossible to turn around or correct? Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to help you forgive yourself. Bless those whom you have hurt and pray for them to find peace in their hearts as well.

**When someone is murdered** (2 Sam.3:32; 2 Sam.15:23). David lost two sons like this. The lament in your soul is without description. Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to help you forgive those who have mercilessly killed someone close to you. Just cry; do not try to do anything, just pour out your heart before the Lord. Let go of all the anger, all the lamenting and ask Him to heal your heart.

**When someone is raped** (2 Sam.13:19). Oh, the suffering of the loss of purity when you have been raped or sexually abused! Turn your tears into prayers and ask the Lord to heal the pain of the past. Ask Him to help you forgive, to restore your joy and to enable you to live your life with spiritual freedom and peace. Let go of the anger, the shame; cry before Him with hope until your heart is healed.

### **Saturday 25 June 2011**

#### **Focus on children at risk: Child marriage**

Addressing mindsets and customs that promote the practice of child marriage is vital in order to change the acceptable age for marriage. India's high rate of child marriages is a major reason for its large number of maternal and infant deaths. About 47% of India's women aged 20-24 were married before the legal age of 18. Pray that girls will be given an opportunity to continue their education. Ask for grace for the development of workers, educating the society on the hazards of early marriage. Please cry out to the Lord to minister to girls who are married at an early age. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

#### **Focus on environmental training for child-headed households**

The program will focus on training workers working with children and who reach thousands of children from child-headed households in local communities, across a wide area of North West and Northern Cape Provinces. (Website: <http://www.arocha.org/za-en/index.html>). Praise the Lord for answers to prayer for programs like these. Pray that the training will be effective and practical, really helpful and achieve the desired results.

### **Sunday 26 June 2011**

#### **Personal revival: When the answer tarries (cont. 19 June)**

It is important to understand that it is our "responsibility" to pray and God's "responsibility" to answer. We so often want to pray and, at the same time, give the answer we want. So why then do we ask the Lord's help or what His will is? God is Almighty and His will is perfect. If God does not have the right to say no, then what is the purpose of prayer? In what type of God do we change Him if we want to explain and tell Him what and how to do. Jesus taught us to pray: Let Your will be done. When we pray this with the right attitude, it is a sign of faith rather than unbelief. When we are confused, the most important thing to do is to focus on God's character, and study it to

learn Who He is through the working of the Holy Spirit. Read especially Psalms. Believe the Word rather than your own feelings and questions. There are times that we experience extremely traumatic situations and answers. In such times, logical answers are of no help to us. God is not a man, that he should lie ... Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfil? (Num.23:19). (Heb.13:8.) And He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul. (Ps.106.15). God is sometimes merciful not to answer us. (Taken from "100 Vrae oor Gebed" by Bennie Mostert).

**Monday 27 June 2011**

**Salvation focus: Coaches of sport teams and athletes**

A coach's biggest challenge is to instil healthy habits and disciplines and maintain balance in interpersonal relationships. This often involves handling difficult conflict situations. Pray for God to raise up godly coaches that will positively influence those sport teams and athletes under their care, motivating them to put their trust in the Lord. Pray for the salvation of coaches, especially remembering those coaching national teams in SA and overseas.

**Focus on fostering children in Latin America**

The life expectancy of a street child in Latin America is only four years, and they usually die of hunger or drug addiction or due to violence. Fostering has the potential to offer an effective solution to the growing number of street children across Latin America, up until now, a never-taken strategy. Pray for families who decide to take on a child to be supported by their church and surrounded by the love and care of a Christian community. Praise God for this and similar work. Praise Him for children given the chance to grow up in a loving Christian environment. Ask for many more families to consider fostering children. (Children at Risk Prayer News. Website: <http://www.viva.org/> or e-mail: [pray@viva.org](mailto:pray@viva.org)).

***The effect of a father's words on children***

***Attitude of the heart:*** A father's words can cause children a lot of pain, make them bitter for life, and give them a poor and wrong self-image, causing them to lose all self-respect. A father who speaks to his children in the wrong way, makes them rebellious, bitter and unmanageable. Ask the Lord to make you sensitive for the way you speak to your children and watch the attitude of your heart, especially being unnecessarily impatient or irritated because you are busy with something else.

***Say you're sorry.*** A father's words must carry love and grace. They must include words of forgiveness, because no child is without sin or shortcomings. A father also needs to ask for forgiveness, because fathers also have shortcomings and make mistakes and then you need to ask your child's forgiveness. It doesn't help to try and make up by buying sweets or gifts. Your child has to hear you say the words. Ask the Lord to teach you to speak with a gentle voice, to sound sorry if you really are. Ask for wisdom on how to bless and build up your children, especially after they have made mistakes.

***Be careful not to humiliate them.*** A father's words so often manage to humiliate their children. Humiliation kills the soul and spirit of a child and leads to bitterness and dejection. Do not reprimand your child in front of others or speak to your child in a way that embarrasses him when others are present, especially his friends. Ask the Lord to

give you wisdom on how to handle especially conflict situations in a way that will gain the respect of both your child and his friends. Pray that God will help you speak to your child about matters like an adult, and still exercise your authority to discipline, if necessary.

***No one has to win.*** Never compare your children with each other or with other children. Your words must help your children understand that each one of them is special. A father may NEVER choose one child above another or show favouritism. Explain to your children that each of them is unique and special in their own way. Ask the Lord to show you how you can do something special with each child, something that is unique to your relationship with that specific child, without making the others jealous. Ask the Lord to show you their talents and good points and that you will find ways to share these with them in an uplifting manner, especially also sometimes in front of their friends.

***Break the power of feelings of rejection.*** Children easily experience rejection. Rejection leads to a lot of negative reactions in children: spiritual pain and inferiority; it confuses them and makes them unsure of themselves; it makes them rebellious and bitter. The three most degrading things in the life of a child is rejection, humiliation and the lack of positive love. All three these things are first and foremost, conveyed by words. Children very quickly know when they are “not good enough”. Without positive, encouraging words, children will not grow up to be mature and healthy people who can live their lives with hope and joy. Ask the Lord to show you how to break the grip of humiliation, rejection and lack of positive love on your children’s lives. Ask God the Father to show you how to speak Father-words of love, encouragement and acknowledgement of those things that are positive and good. Not only for as long you think is enough, but as long as He leads you according to your child’s need. Pray for new creativity on how to affirm and acknowledge it when they do what is good and right.

***Not everything is always wrong.*** Watch out that you don’t point out only your child’s weaknesses. Protect your children by leaving space for their weaknesses. Ask the Lord to help you to take up your responsibility to help your children face and overcome their weaknesses without blaming them. Ask the Lord for insight into your child’s capacity and abilities at a certain age, and that you don’t add your own expectations to these. What does your child say about “my father”? A father has to teach his child the lessons of life. It must be possible for a child to say one day, “My father said...”, “My father taught me...”. Ask the Lord to show you what legacy He as Heavenly Father wants to impress on your children through you. Pray for courage to do it often and build good memories into your children’s lives.

***Do not lie or side-step the truth.*** A father must never lie to his children. Tell your child when it is not possible to give them all the details. Do not make up a story you have to correct later! Ask the Lord to humble you and to apologise when you have told a lie, even just a small one. Ask the Lord to give you wisdom to know what to say when you simply cannot tell your children everything, as it would be to their disadvantage, and to do so without lying.

***Are you embarrassed to speak about God?*** A child must hear the Word of God in his own father’s words. A father has to speak to his children about God in such a way that they will believe in God on account of his words, prayers and actions. A father’s words

must heal, give hope and beautify his children's lives. Ask the Lord for ways to speak to your children about God so that they are given a healthy father-image, established in God the Father and Christ His Son.

***Honour the mother of your children.*** A father should not speak negatively about the mother of his children, tell degrading jokes about her, or compare her with other women in a negative way. Ask the Lord for wisdom on how to build your wife's image in front of the children. Ask for wisdom on how to stand in the gap for her if she is not treated right by them or anyone else. Also to teach them in practical ways how to respect her, and especially how to compliment her, by letting them hear these things from your own mouth.

***Do you pray for your children?*** A father's prayers must resound in the ears of his children – prayers of blessing and intercession. A father must often tell his child: I bless you and I pray God's blessing over your life. Pray with them about everything they share with you, at all times, no matter where you are. Teach your children not to be shy or reluctant to call upon God. Ask the Lord for much favour to establish this spontaneous lifestyle of prayer in your children's lives.

***Would you have wanted a father like yourself?*** Is it your wish that your child will learn to speak the way you do? Is this how you would have wanted your father speak to you? Take a moment to think about this and try to remember the words of your own father. What do you "hear"? Do you hear words of hope that give life? Are they words of love and wisdom? Are they words that make you feel good or bad? Ask the Lord to once again teach you to be a father, especially in those areas where you would have wanted your own father to be there for you. Ask Him to teach you even what you do not know, causing the pain of old and repeated cycles in your family to stop with you.

**Tuesday 28 June 2011**

**Revival focus: The gospel has two sides**

One side of the gospel is about people being reconciled with God, becoming children of God, coming out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light. The other dimension of the gospel, which is clear from the teachings of Jesus and the Old Testament prophets involves the social dimension of the gospel. Both sides are equally important when ministering the full gospel to the whole church. Pray that both evangelists and groups involved in social upliftment will understand this and take hands.

**Focus on children at risk: HIV/AIDS**

HIV/AIDS has a negative impact on children from affected households, and girls are more likely to be withdrawn to cope with household chores or to supplement the family income. Women face the worst forms of discrimination e.g. neglect, isolation and verbal teasing in both urban and rural areas. Pray for children affected by HIV/AIDS. Pray for the church to accept and support children affected by HIV. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).

**Wednesday 29 June 2011**

**Focus on establishing 24/7 houses of prayer**

Continue praying that God will pour out His Spirit of prayer and supplication on every house of prayer across the world (Zech.12:10). Ask for strength for each intercessor; perseverance and unity among leadership; favour with believers and non-believers in the surrounding communities and the necessary funds and premises for each house of prayer to continue with their work.

### **Focus on the economy, business sector and labour**

Lift up in prayer negotiators between employers, unions, the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) and labourers . Ask for godly order, wisdom and authority to rule over unrighteousness from all sides. Pray that there will be no place for manipulation and distortion of the truth, but rather for a willingness to agree on common interests to come into the hearts of all those negotiating or representing those involved.

### **Thursday 30 June 2011**

#### **Revival focus: Image of God**

All of us are created in the image of God. Poor and needy people very often struggle to understand God's love and that He wants to be a Father to them as well. They normally struggle with feelings of worthlessness, even feeling "second class" and are very often treated as such. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open their eyes to see, realise and believe they were created in the image of God (Gen.1:26-28). Also that Jesus loves them so much that He died for them. Pray that they will understand that their poverty does not influence what God thinks of them. He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honours God (Prov.14:31 – NIV).

#### **Focus on children at risk in India**

The national child sex ratio in the age group of 0-6 years (census 2001) is 927 girls to 1,000 boys. British Medical Journal Lancet (2006) estimated that more than 10 million female foetuses may have been aborted in India in the last two decades. Pray for women struggling to save their daughters from being aborted. Pray for the agencies working on issues related to girls and women. Pray for an end to practices like female feticide and female infanticide. (Viva India. Website: [www.asia.viva.org/india](http://www.asia.viva.org/india) or e-mail: [india@viva.org](mailto:india@viva.org)).