

DAY-TO-DAY PRAYER GUIDE – February 2010

Monday 1 February 2010

Salvation focus: Garage and service station owners

Lift up in prayer owners and personnel working at garages and service stations. Ask for their hearts to be open and receptive to God's voice in their own lives and to ask questions about the reason for their lives. Pray that we as Christians will portray Jesus to them in a very simple and applicable way that they will be able to relate to. Ask for their lives to be completely turned over to the Lord Jesus.

Morality focus: Efforts to legalise prostitution in South Africa

A recent survey revealed that 79% of South Africans oppose decriminalised prostitution. South Africa's liberal media refuses to acknowledge and report on the hundreds of warnings emanating from across the world about the dangers of global sex trafficking including the explosion of child prostitution and organised crime in nations that legalised prostitution. Decriminalising prostitution will throw open the doors to pimps and gangs & will remove barriers to crime syndicates & international sex traffickers to operate with impunity in SA. (*Family Policy Institute*, 49 Parliament St., Cape Town. Tel.: 021 462 7888, fax: 021 462 7889. Website: www.familypolicyinstitute.org, e-mail: info@familypolicyinstitute.org). Please pray that prostitution will not be legalised in South Africa.

Tuesday 2 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Albania, Afghanistan and Algeria. Ask for the salvation of every soul.

Receive the Holy Spirit: Jesus Himself baptises with the Holy Spirit

The Word on it: ... *He who is coming after me (Johannes) is mightier than I ... He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire (Matt.3:11).*

Overview: The Father sends the Holy Spirit (**John 14:26**) and Jesus is the One who baptises us with the Holy Spirit. Fire in Bible times symbolised different things: God's glory (**Dan.7:9**); His holiness (**Isa.6:4**); His jealousy concerning the fact that we must worship only Him (**Heb.12:29**) His righteous judgment and purification (**1 Cor.3:13,15**); His wrath against sin (**Ps.18:8**), and many more. When we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire, we receive the fullness of who God is. That fills us with great fear of God, for He is **very** holy! His holiness is poured out for a purpose, that His Name will be honoured, not only for us to have a nice experience or to feel good about ourselves.

Yielding in prayer: Lord Jesus, baptise Your Church with Your Holy Spirit, to see Your glory, to operate in holiness, to turn from wickedness, to search out Your Word, to be willing to suffer for Your Name and to fear Your Name.

Nepal: Church grows despite persecution

Young children work alongside their parents, struggling for years to repay family debts through the exhausting chore of making bricks. In the brickyard-communities of Nepal, there is no access to education, medical care or even enough food or decent housing for these suffering families. Converts to Christianity among the labourers face harassment and persecution for their faith. Pray for new Believers to grow spiritually, and for God to bring about breakthroughs in these communities. (Lars Widerberg, *Intercessors Network*. Storskiftesgatan 87, S-58334 Linköping, Sweden. (E-mail: Intercessors.Network@Comhem.se or Intercessors.Network@Telia.com).

Wednesday 3 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer American Samoa, Andorra and Angola. Ask for an increase of night-and-day prayer in every village, town and city.

Evangelism focus: Alpha South Africa

Please pray for the raising up of leaders to take up the development of *Alpha* in Soweto and for effective training of these *Alpha* teams and volunteers. Also lift up in prayer the production of a *New African DVD* – specifically created for a Southern African context. Please pray for God's provision and more volunteers to help with the work. (*Alpha South Africa*. P.O. Box 656, Newlands, 0049. Tel.: 012 998 8144 or fax: 086 518 6263. Website: www.alphasa.co.za or e-mail: kayleigh@alphasa.co.za).

Missions focus: OM Ships International

OM Ships International reaches different nations by visiting their ports with their different missions' ships. Please pray for sufficient crew to serve on board the ships, as well as enough qualified deck and engineering officers to bring the ships

from port to port. Pray for visitors to the ships to experience God's love once they step on board. Pray that doors will open for the crew to serve people in many different countries and have favour in the eyes of authorities. Pray for God's provision in the areas of finance. Also pray for continued good relations with the local Church as their support and partnership is vital to follow-up contacts crews make. (*OM Ships International*. Website: <http://www.omships.org/> or e-mail: info@omships.org).

Thursday 4 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Anguila, Antigua & Barbuda and Argentina. Ask for influential leaders to turn to Jesus.

Work of the Holy Spirit: He does the supernatural work of God in us

The Word on it: ... *the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him (Samson), and he tore the lion apart ... though he had nothing in his hand (Judg.14:5-6). Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you (Saul), and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man (1 Sam.10:6).* (Also read **Luke 1:35**).

Overview: When the Holy Spirit comes upon us, He will do what is humanly impossible through us. Samson was able to resolve a physical situation miraculously and Saul was literally changed into another man! When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, our lives will change noticeably. We might be able to accomplish many things by ourselves, but when we minister in the power of the Holy Spirit, it is God doing the work in His power and it will have lasting results.

Yielding in prayer: Lord, I pray for Your Holy Spirit to rest on Your Church, night and day. Change me and may Your Spirit work in me to fearlessly and wholeheartedly pursue Your kingdom purposes on earth.

Health focus: World Cancer Day

The *World Health Organisation (WHO)* estimates that, without intervention, 84 million people might die of cancer between 2005 and 2015. Each year on 4 February, *WHO* joins with the sponsoring *International Union Against Cancer* to promote ways to ease the global burden of cancer. (Website: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/annual/world_cancer_day/en/). Let us continue to pray for God's intervention concerning medical breakthroughs in curing cancer worldwide. Thank God for every time someone is healed from cancer; this takes place every day.

Friday 5 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Armenia, Aruba, Australia and Austria. Ask for a hunger and thirst to study, pray and proclaim God's Word.

Child focus: Child labour

There are an estimated 10,000 child labourers in South Africa (this excludes children in sexual slavery), most of whom are trafficked into slave-like conditions. (Eighty20. Fact-a-Day. Website: www.eighty20.co.za or e-mail: fact.a.day@eighty20.co.za). Many of these children face daily life as breadwinners in homes where parents have passed away due to HIV/AIDS. Please pray for them to experience God's love and comfort through the practical help of Christians and that they would find ways to care for their younger brothers and sisters and to be set free from unfair labour or trafficking.

Education focus: Tuition-free online university

For many students in developing countries, higher education is often impossible. The *University of the People* is the world's first tuition-free online academic institution providing access to education by employing open-source technology, open courseware and provisions for peer-to-peer teaching, e-Learning, and online communities. (Website: <http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/410/98/36436.html>). Give thanks to the Lord for practical solutions to the educational need worldwide. Please pray that those in need will be able to start, maintain and complete their education in these and other ways.

Saturday 6 February 2010

Watch out: Honour the Holy Spirit

The Word on it: *Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit? (Acts 5:3).*

Overview: The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of all truth. There is no way we can ever trick the Holy Spirit through any scheme on our part. The Holy Spirit will, all of the time, convict us of everything that is not pleasing to the Father. If we intentionally try to deceive the Holy Spirit in front of people, it will certainly have an impact on us. It is important to fearfully walk our walk as a Christian, continuously yielding to the inner voice of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us into all truth, in our hearts, minds, thoughts, deeds and especially our relationships with others.

Yielding in prayer: Holy Spirit, I choose to intentionally surrender my heart and mind, all my deeds and relationships to your leadership and guidance. Please help me to listen and yield to Your voice, especially when I feel to defend myself and my actions. Fill me with the fullness of the fear of God and prevent me from ever speaking against you. Thank You that You promised to complete the work You have started in me.

Focus on young girls: Kenya

Please pray for young girls who are at risk of *Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)* and have escaped to refugee centres. Even though many countries have outlawed the practice, the *UN* estimates that three million girls are at risk in Africa every year. Praise the Lord that many in Kenya are fighting this tradition, and even parents are sending their girls away to avoid those pressuring them to be circumcised. (*Trans World Radio*. Website: <http://www.twr.org.za/phannah/prayer.asp>).

Sunday 7 February 2010

The work of the Holy Spirit: Teaching us to pray God's will

The Word on it: *But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit (Jude 1:20).*

Overview: Reading about the Holy Spirit's place in intercessory prayer, we can better understand our Lord's prayers on his last night on earth, *not as I will but as You will (Matt.26:39)*. *We do not know what we should pray for as we ought (Rom.8:26)*. Many people are in doubt whether they prayed according to the will of God or not. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit like Jesus, we can submit our prayers to God with confidence, and then wait patiently that they will be answered in His way and time. Furthermore, we can simply ask the Holy Spirit to intercede on our behalf and to teach us how to pray and what to pray, filling our mouths with His words when we pray to our Heavenly Father.

Yielding in prayer: Father, we ask for humility and childlike trust to return to the hearts of Your children in the Church today to pray like Jesus; *not as I will, but as You will*. Forgive us for the times that we, filled with pride, order You around, trying to force You to do what we want. Teach us again the fear of God, and to truly pray according to the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Monday 8 February 2010

Salvation focus: People struggling with debt and greed

More people now want to sell their houses, with the result that there are more houses up for sale than the demand to buy. Greedy buyers try to force down prices even more, leading to sellers ending up in debt even after selling their property. Please pray for God's intervention in each and every situation where houses are bought and sold, that buyers and sellers would hear God's voice, humble themselves, and bear a true Christian testimony. Ask for a deep repentance and transformation of people working in the property market, and for many to turn their lives over to Jesus as a result.

Focus on Lake Tanganyika

OM Tanganyika is currently restoring a boat which will be used as a mobile clinic on the lake to serve the medical and spiritual needs of the people living in remote villages in the four countries bordering the lake. The project also includes the construction of a *Discipleship Centre* on a piece of land next to the lake. Please pray for finances and strategy. Thank God for what He has already provided through his body. (*ProChristo, Good News II Ministry*. Tel. +260 977 199 322. Website: www.ltpayer.org or e-mail: gnews2@gmail.com).

Tuesday 9 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain and Bangladesh. Ask for people to hear, listen and obey God's voice.

The work of the Holy Spirit: He will tell you what to say

The Word on it: *For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say (Lk. 12:12)*. *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth (Acts 1:8)*.

Overview: There is absolutely no guarantee that as Christians we will know only prosperity. On the contrary; we live in a broken world and bad things happen to good and bad people (**Matt.5:45**). The devil wants to stop the work of God in and through our lives. But there is a full guarantee that we will not have to worry what we will say, how we will respond or what we must do when we face calamity or persecution. The secret though, in times of difficulty, is to intentionally wait and listen to the Holy Spirit inside you before you respond or act. In such moments, no one but you yourself can listen to and speak the words of God. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit with this purpose: to be witnesses of the gospel of Jesus Christ wherever we are.

Yielding in prayer: Heavenly Father, I ask for the divine guidance of Your Holy Spirit in my life to be able to witness to others in all circumstances, especially at times when I face or might face calamity or persecution. Help me to wait on You and answer only according to Your will and purpose so that others will clearly witness that it is Your authority working in and through my life at such times.

From creation to eternity

Trans World Radio (TWR) and *OneStory* are partnering to bring the gospel to unreached people groups in West Africa through a series of radio programmes. Over 65% of people living in West Africa are illiterate and considered to be oral learners. The chronological Bible story project makes Bible stories accessible to people. (*Trans World Radio*. Website: <http://www.twrafrica.org/0190.asp> or e-mail: twrafrica@netwisemm.co.za). Pray for this project to be effective and especially for favour that those in remote areas may be able to hear it on radio.

Wednesday 10 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Barbados, Belarus, Belgium and Belize. Ask for an increase of night-and-day prayer in every village, town and city.

Child focus: Physical abuse

About 80% of all children under the age of two that are helped at *Childline* in Port Elizabeth have skull fractures because of physical abuse by a parent or family member. About 43% of all cases in which *Childline* South Africa is involved, are those of sexually abused children. (Website: <http://news.iafrica.com/sa/1491275.htm>). Let us persevere in crying out to the Lord on behalf of children. Ask that all who intentionally physically abuse children will come to their senses, realising what they are doing and that they will stop this behaviour and surrender their lives to Jesus. Pray that these children, like those in Orange Farm, will learn to pray themselves for their protection and that they will also intercede for others, especially for the smaller children that are too small to pray yet.

Morality focus: Teen pregnancies

A study at the *University of Chicago* found that nearly half of the girls who had spent time in the foster-care system had been pregnant at least once by the time they were 19 years old. Even more troubling, unplanned pregnancy had already become a pattern for many of the young women — close to one-quarter had experienced multiple pregnancies in their teens. (Website: <http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1911854,00.html?xid=newsletter-daily>). Please pray for foster parents to have godly wisdom and understanding on how to properly care for and help foster children and that they will truly love these children. Also pray for these parents and children, both boys and girls to have a personal encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ and for their lives to be turned around to His glory.

Thursday 11 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Benin, Bermuda, Bhutan and Bolivia. Ask for people to understand God's love and choose to follow Him.

The Person of the Holy Spirit: He is fully God, not only a power

The Word on it: *For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one (1 John 5:7).*

Overview: The Holy Spirit is one of the Persons in the Trinity, fully God and one in essence with the Father and the Son. He is not a part of the Trinity; He is one of the Trinity, fully God Himself. It is the Person of the Holy Spirit that baptises, that anoints, that empowers. The Holy Spirit is not just a power, but a Person that empowers. Sometimes we might think the work of the Holy Spirit, the anointing or the presence of the Lord is something different from the Holy Spirit as a person. There is no presence of the Lord or anointing for service apart from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, works and dwells in us.

Yielding in prayer: Father, reveal the truth about the Person and the power of Your Holy Spirit, Your presence and anointing to the Church. Help us understand and be able to relate to the reality of the Holy Spirit as a Person and one of the Trinity.

Salvation focus: Kheng Believers in Bhutan

In the early 1990s, the first Kheng people turned to Christ. Today there is a small group of Believers struggling to see more of their friends and neighbours come to Jesus too. Pray that Scripture may soon become available in their language. There are currently no known ministry tools at all in Kheng. Most of the 59,000 Kheng follow another major world religion. Praise

God for His plans to let His love become known to them. Pray that those plans will be carried out by willing Believers. (Website: <http://www.joshuaproject.net/peopctry.php?rop3=104937&rog3=BT>).

Friday 12 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Bosnia, Botswana, Brazil and the British Virgin Islands. Ask for Jesus to reveal Himself to people in visions and dreams.

Jericho Walls International Prayer Network

Please pray today for each volunteer working at the different offices of *Jericho Walls Prayer Network* across the country. Ask for them, their families and especially the children for God's protection, for strength and health. Also pray for God to provide in their practical and physical needs. Over the past few months, we have experienced difficulty in the printing and posting process of the *Jericho Walls Daily Prayer Guide*. Please pray that this process will be running smoothly this month, as the next issue of *Jericho Walls Daily Prayer Guide* will be posted during the next 10 days. Ask that every booklet will reach its destination in time and no envelope or parcel will get lost. (*Jericho Walls International Prayer Network*, Private bag X22, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040. Tel.: 012 365 3213, fax: 012 365 3214. Website: www.jwipn.com or e-mail: info@jwipn.com).

Missions focus: Macedonia project

The *Macedonia Project* helps and sends out many prayer teams to pray in countries that are closed to the gospel. There are 65 countries in the *10-40 Window* and two-thirds of the world's population and 82% of the world's poorest live here. Of these, 97% do not follow Christ. (*The Macedonian Project*. Tel.: 012 665 4892, fax: 086 630 3193. Website: <http://www.macsa.co.za> or e-mail: info@macsa.co.za). Give thanks to the Lord for this ministry and all the answers to prayer they have seen over the years. Pray for protection and wisdom for the leadership and personnel, as well as those taking the different prayer journeys into unsafe areas.

Saturday 13 February 2010

Receiving the Holy Spirit: The seal of God's favour

The Word on it: *And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased" (Lk. 3:22).*

Overview: We do not always physically see the Holy Spirit come upon us like it was with Jesus. In the spiritual realm however, what happens is still very clear. When God the Father gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Name of Jesus, it is a sign that He wants to dwell with us. The Holy Spirit is the seal of His favour resting upon us. Picture for one moment a dove sitting on your shoulder. Your actions will determine whether the dove can safely remain there or not! Likewise, it is important to walk before God in a way that we will not offend, resist, quench, or grieve the Holy Spirit through disobedience and sin. **Yielding in prayer:** Father, thank You for showing Believers Your favour by giving us Your Holy Spirit. Help us as Your Church to carefully walk with holy fear of You. Help Your Church realise the responsibility to represent You in a world that lives without You.

Missions focus: Medical team to Costa Rica

Recently, an *Operation Mobilization* Costa Rica team, with doctors and nurses from the US and Costa Rica, held a medical outreach in the remote and indigenous reserve called Punta Burica. The team of 25 hiked five hours up a mountain to the reserve where free medical care would be given during the week. Approximately 200 to 300 people came for care. Many other events occurred in addition to the services of the medical clinic, such as children's ministry and evangelical services at night. The most important aspect of the medical trip was to specifically introduce Jesus as the Healer. Pray for lasting fruit from all the conversations they had during the week in the village. Pray for all the follow-up work being done by the *OM Costa Rica* team. (*Operation Mobilization*. Website: www.omusa.org or www.omcostarica.org or e-mail: info@omcostarica.org).

Sunday 14 February 2010

The gifts of the Holy Spirit: Are they visible in the Church?

The Word on it: *There are diversities of gifts ... differences of ministries ... diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom ... word of knowledge ... faith ... gifts of healings ... working of miracles, ... prophecy, ... discerning of spirits ... different kinds of tongues ... interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills (1 Cor.12:4-11).*

Overview: The Holy Spirit gives different gifts to different people as He wills. Not all have the same gifts. Do not compare your gift with the gift(s) of others. Do not desire what the Holy Spirit gave them or think yourself superior because of your own gifts. Let us humbly walk in God's presence, using our gifts to serve the Body of Christ and do the works of God.

Yielding in prayer: Father, help me to understand the gifts You gave me and how to use these gifts to the benefit of Your Body and the advancement of the kingdom. Help me not to become proud of my gifts or desire the gifts of others, but to be content with what I have received from You.

Children-2-pray: How to pray for the government

You can change the world – by simply praying for those who are kings and rulers in the nations. God specifically tells us to pray for our government leaders so that our country will be blessed (**1 Timothy 2:1-2**). The following are some prayers from God's Word to help you as you pray for our president and other government officials, for all of them need a closer and growing relationship with the Lord Jesus!

1. **For their homes:** Father, reveal the truth of Jesus Christ to the family and heart of every government leader. Make them willing to do what is right. Give them wisdom and understanding. Let each home be filled with peace and quiet (**Psalms 127:1, 101:7; Proverbs 14:11, 24:3, 17:1**).
2. **For their spiritual lives:** Father, please open the eyes of all our government leaders who do not yet follow Jesus as their Saviour, so that they may see that You are the best plan for their lives. I pray that they would turn away from bad things and that they would live good lives and serve You. Give them much faith, love, patience, and gentleness. (**John 6:44; Ephesians 2:8; 1 Timothy 6:11,12**).
3. **For their work:** Father, please pour out Your Spirit of wisdom and revelation upon the heart and mind of every government leader. Cause them to seek wise counsel, take only good advice, and accept correction if they need it. Help them make the right decisions (**Proverbs 15:22, 19:20**).
4. **For strength:** Lord, help our leaders to be strong and brave and to do what is right even if they stand alone. Give them confidence that You are their helper so that they will not be afraid of what anyone says or thinks (**Joshua 1:7; Hebrews 13:6**).
5. **For humble hearts:** Guide our leaders to be humble, to do what is right for other people, and to show kindness. Will You please protect, guide, and teach them when they show true humility. Cause them to speak no evil about anyone, to live in peace and to be polite to all people (**Micah 6:8; Ps. 18:27, 25:9; Titus 3:2**).
6. **To be honest:** Father, give our leaders an undivided heart to speak and walk in the truth. Help them not to listen to lies and to be trustworthy themselves (**Psalms 101:2-4, 86:11, Proverbs 16:13, 29:12**).
7. **To have compassion:** O Lord, help our government to do what is right for the poor and needy in our country. Help them come to the rescue of the weak and the orphans. Help them not to seek revenge or hold a grudge (**Proverbs 29:14; Psalms 82:3-4; Leviticus 19:18**).

Monday 15 February 2010

Salvation focus: Estate agents

Where some estate agents are concerned, all is not well as far as integrity goes. The pressure on them to sell a house is quite intense, even if it means you have taken the opportunity from another person. Pray that God will turn the hearts of all estate agents to Him. Ask for those who are following Christ to remain faithful and ethical, even to testify of God's provision to those who do not yet follow Him. Pray for many estate agents to come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

China's water deficit 'will create food shortage'

As the demand for water continues to rise and less is available for agriculture, China will begin to see a food shortfall of 5-10% - a disastrous outcome in a country of 1.3 billion people. (Website: <http://www.scidev.net/en/news/china-s-water-deficit-will-create-food-shortage-.html>). This problem is an increasing one worldwide. Please cry out to the Lord for help, that hidden water resources will be discovered to meet the felt needs of people worldwide. Also ask for a stirring in the hearts of mankind for Jesus Christ, the Living Water.

Tuesday 16 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Brunei, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso and Burundi. Ask for influential leaders to turn to Jesus.

Following the Holy Spirit's lead: Teaching perseverance through times of testing

The Word on it: *Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness (Lk. 4:1).*

Overview: Often after we receive clarity on God's calling and purpose on and for our lives, like Jesus, we might go through times of trial and testing. Such times can easily leave us completely disillusioned and without hope if we do not walk in humble obedience to the ever-present Holy Spirit living inside of us. Let us be clear about it: basically no one escapes that 'wilderness experience' or those 'times of testing'. It is part of our lives today as much as it was part of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. Yet, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit that He received from His Heavenly Father, Jesus was able to resist Satan's attempts to persuade Him to doubt His Father in heaven. Realising this truth is more than enough assurance to be able to endure all life may hand us.

Yielding in prayer: Father, please reveal to every Believer the importance of yielding to Your Holy Spirit, especially in times of testing and trial. Help us as Your Church to know how to respond with Your wisdom and in a practical way to all life's challenges and to become skilful in our response to all the challenges life brings.

Missions focus: Mongolia

Believers from various ethnic groups have come together to seek God as they attempt to evangelise Mongolia. They have asked for divine intervention as they go to share God's love with those who have been held in spiritual bondage. Pray that Believers will be effective as they unite in prayer. Also ask for breakthroughs in every ethnic group in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. (*Global Prayer Digest*, e-mail: GPDMOD@wciu.edu).

Wednesday 17 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Cambodia, Cameroon and Canada. Ask for the mind of Christ in the hearts of people.

Focus on unemployment: SA job losses

South Africa represents 5.3% of the world's 74 million unemployed, ranking third in the unemployment rate out of 73 countries, the first two being the West Bank/Gaza and Macedonia. The current official unemployment rate runs at just over 23%. Of all people reaching working age, 10% become unemployed while 35% are employed. However, 55% never enter the labour force at all. (Website: <http://www.sabcnews.co.za/portal/site/SABCNews/menuitem.5c4f8fe7ee929f602ea12ea1674daeb9/?vgnextoid=bf1a1d2223011210VgnVCM10000077d4ea9bRCD&vgnnextfmt=default>). Continue to pray with faith that new job opportunities will once again be offered to those who have lost their jobs, that people will be thankful for having jobs and do their work with integrity.

Thursday 18 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Cape Verde, Cayman Islands and Central African Republic. Ask for breakthroughs among African religions.

To receive the Holy Spirit: Wait

The Word on it: *...until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen... He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me..." (Acts 1:2,4).*

Overview: Jesus did not say how long they had to wait, or what the 'coming of the Holy Spirit' would be like. He just commanded them to wait. After Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out again and again like the day they saw it there in the upper room (**Acts 11:15**). Through the power of the Holy Spirit Jesus gave them these commands. Sometimes God's Spirit wants us to wait before we do or say something. Waiting on Him will prevent us from making hasty mistakes and doing harm to the Kingdom of God through unwise conduct. On the other hand, waiting on Him will make us see the power of God at work, rather than the calamity, destruction and failure when we move according to the guidance of our own flesh.

Yielding in prayer: Father, please make me willing to wait upon Your perfect timing. Forgive me for those times I act outside of Your perfect timing and in my flesh. Teach us as Your Church to wait on Your guidance more and more.

Focus on children: Malawi

There are 12 million people living in Malawi. About 14% of the population is HIV-positive. The 3.7 million children are especially vulnerable in this situation and of those between ages 5 to 14, more than 1 million are orphans. About 700,000 of them have lost their parents to AIDS. Please pray for God to raise up workers for this harvest, so that especially the children may have opportunities to live lives of abundance. (Lars Widerberg, *Intercessors Network*, Storskiftesgatan 87, S-58334 Linköping, Sweden. E-mail: Intercessors.Network@Comhem.se or Intercessors.Network@Telia.com).

Friday 19 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Chad, Chile and China. Ask for the Church to grow; transforming their communities.

Floating toilets may cut river illnesses in Cambodia

Floating toilets could cut the enormous levels of waterborne sicknesses in Cambodia's river communities. These communities largely live on floating platforms. Occupants use the river for a toilet, and use that same water for drinking, cooking and washing. Three quarters of all deaths in Cambodia are caused by waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea. (Website: <http://www.scidev.net/en/features/floating-toilets-may-cut-river-illnesses-2.html>). Pray for Christians to become involved in this project, not only bringing a physical solution to felt needs, but also helping them to come to know Jesus as the Restorer of their souls.

Saturday 20 February 2010

The work of the Holy Spirit: To speak God's Word with boldness

The Word on it: *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the Word of God with boldness (Acts 4:31).*

Overview: When something supernatural like this happens, it is important to discern exactly what is happening. We are encouraged to test all things (1 Thess.5:21) When the Holy Spirit is poured out, it is with one purpose: To make known the Word of God and to reveal Jesus to the world. The Holy Spirit will always confirm the Word of God, testify of Jesus and make known the Father. With the help and power of the Holy Spirit, we will no longer be timid or afraid to boldly speak the truth in all circumstances.

Yielding in prayer: Father, I thank you for empowering me with boldness to speak, testify and declare who You are to anyone at any time. I especially pray for the Church today, that she will be pure in all her ways, discerning, speaking and declaring the truth with boldness and with such authority that Your name will be glorified at all times.

Sunday 21 February 2010

The fruit of the Holy Spirit: Is it visible in my life?

The Word on it: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit (Gal.5:22-25).*

Overview: When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, the fruit of the Spirit must be seen in us. The fruit of the Spirit is as important as the gifts of the Spirit (see 14 February 2010).

Yielding in prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I want to have the fruit of the Spirit in my life. Show me where I need to grow. My desire is to walk in obedience to the Holy Spirit, so that I can bear the fruit of the Spirit through which the world will see that God can truly change our lives.

Monday 22 February 2010

Salvation focus: Developers

To start off the development of a new town house complex takes quite a financial input from the proposed developer. Often they have to use their own money, risking almost all they have. Let us pray for current and future developers of new building projects, that they will have a personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, leading them with wisdom how to conduct their businesses. Also pray for them to completely surrender their lives and businesses to the guidance of God through the Holy Spirit and so become a testimony of His goodness to others.

Medical research focus: Hope for a cure for blindness

Millions of people could have their eyesight saved thanks to ground-breaking laser treatment that has the potential to eradicate the most common cause of blindness. This technique reverses the disabling effects of age-related macular degeneration (AMD), which leaves many older people unable to read, drive or live independently, and eventually robs them of sight in one or both eyes. (Website: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2009/jul/05/blindness-laser-cure-amd>). Give thanks to God for this medical breakthrough. Ask for many to benefit from it, but also to have opportunities to meet Christ as the Light of the nations.

Tuesday 23 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Columbia, Comoro Islands and Congo. Ask for a hunger after God's Word.

The work of the Holy Spirit in the Church: Leaders

The Word on it: *Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business (Acts 6:3).*

Overview: It is important to not only fill vacancies in the church, but to specifically search out men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. How often the church fails in this quest by appointing important, rich or influential people to oversee the church. Are we willing to do the work with fewer people, but with the assurance that they have a close relationship with the Lord?

Yielding in prayer: Father, we pray for every person in church leadership across the nation, that You will touch their hearts with conviction to turn their lives in whatever area needed, so that they will have a 'good reputation', be truly filled with the Holy Spirit and will be full of wisdom because they know and love Your Word.

Health focus on HIV/AIDS

There are at least 28 million people who are living with HIV/AIDS in Africa. The practices of polygamy, rape and intimidation leave many helpless in preventing HIV infection. Over 13% of adults in Mozambique are infected with HIV and at least 15% of South Africa's population is HIV positive. (Website: <http://www.twr.org.za/phannah/prayer.asp>). Please continue to pray for breakthroughs in research to find a cure for HIV/AIDS, especially now that research efforts have been stopped nationally. Also pray for the protection of especially women who are more vulnerable to the disease than men. Ask for people to get opportunities to choose Christ and turn their lives around.

Wednesday 24 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Cook Islands, Costa Rica and Cote d'Ivoire. Ask for adults to submit to Jesus.

Walking by Faith Ministries South Africa

The *Prayer Walk and Street Evangelism* project was launched recently and runs concurrently on Saturdays in Krugersdorp, Gauteng. Other towns and cities are also invited to join in this project in which they walk the streets to speak to people about Christ and pray for breakthroughs in their different communities. (*Walking by Faith Ministries*. Cell: 076 751 1102 or 082 920 1378. Website: www.wbfm.co.nr or e-mail: wbfm@vodamail.co.za or streetministry@vodamail.co.za).

Focus on children: Branded as 'Child Witches'

Agencies working with children at risk are initiating a prayer and advocacy campaign around the issue of so-called 'Child Witches'. There appears to be an increase in the number of street children who are being abused and branded as 'Child Witches'. It seems that a mixture of evangelical Christianity and traditional African beliefs has led to practices that are harmful to children including fasting, beating, immersion in water, burning and, in extreme cases of cruelty, the ultimate death of children. (Website: www.viva.org/pray or e-mail: cwilkinson@viva.org). Please pray for these agencies to find ways to effectively identify and help these children. Also pray for the children to be open and receptive to the help they so desperately need.

Thursday 25 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Croatia, Cuba and Cyprus. Ask for children to turn to God.

The work of the Holy Spirit: Confirming God's Word

The Word on it: *... God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will (Heb.2:4). When Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money..." (Acts 8:18-19).*

Overview: How often do we seek for the signs, wonders and gifts of the Holy Spirit, but do not seek the Holy Spirit Himself. Are we truly after God in our search for these things? No wonder many go astray, trying to prove to people how spiritual they are. We are birthing a generation that wants fame and fortune, rather than one where people are willing to lay down their lives and proclaim Christ in such a way that people do not remember *them*, but the message they received from the Holy Spirit.

Yielding in prayer: Father, forgive us as Your Church for seeking fame and fortune and not having a pure and holy desire for Your kingdom to prosper, for defending our name, rather than Yours. Forgive us Holy Spirit for not seeking You for who You are, but for what we can get from You to impress people. Forgive us Lord Jesus for not loving the Father like You taught us by making known His kingdom to a dying world.

Focus on orphans: Kenya

In Kenya, the orphan problem is growing as many children have lost their parents due to HIV/AIDS or for other reasons. *Kids Alive International* is rescuing girls from the streets and raising them in "Esther Houses" to become good 'influencers' in their communities. Girls are given a home, food, education and the gospel. (Lars Widerberg, *Intercessors Network*. Storskiftesgatan 87, S-58334 Linköping, Sweden. (E-mail: Intercessors.Network@Comhem.se or Intercessors.Network@Telia.com). Give thanks to the Lord for answers to prayers like these. Ask for this organisation and others to have favour with communities to share the gospel because of their uplifting work among children.

Friday 26 February 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Czech Republic, Denmark and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Ask for minds to yield to God's truth.

Missions focus: World Mission Centre (WMC)

Pray for the WMC team that is currently opening a new field for the *Live School* in West Africa. Ask for them for safe travel and favour with those they meet and train. Also pray for the *Live School* process in the Former Soviet Union where over 80 schools are currently running. (*World Mission Centre*. Tel.: 012 343 1165, cell: 083 300 2567. Website: <http://www.worldmissioncentre.com/> or e-mail: chrissien@liveschoolsa.org).

Saturday 27 February 2010

The work of the Holy Spirit: He multiplies human efforts supernaturally

The Word on it: *Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied (Acts 9:31).*

Overview: Multiplication and fruit on our endeavours do not come through our efforts. How many of the 'programmes' we launch for the youth or young adults really bear fruit? If we would walk in the fear of the Lord like the early Church, submitting ourselves to the voice of the Holy Spirit, we would be able to do the work of God in the power of God. Then 'soul-winning' and 'kingdom work' would ignite us with unquenchable energy to continue drawing others into the same vibrant zeal for God and His work.

Yielding in prayer: Father, forgive us as Your Church, for trying new ideas and efforts to persuade people to become involved in church activities without seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us for often focusing on entertaining people more than on presenting You as the One who changes lives. Holy Spirit, we ask You to guide us so that the Church in our nation will glorify the Father through the Son.

Focus on online dangers: Child online safety

Over 60% of children and teenagers partake in 'chat rooms' on a daily basis. Three in four children online are willing to share personal information about themselves and their family in exchange for goods and services. One in five children will be targeted by a predator or paedophile each year. The UN telecom agency and the European Commission have teamed up to protect children - among the most active and most vulnerable users of the Internet - from online dangers, including cyber-bullying and paedophilia. Pray that child online safety gets on the global agenda and is taken seriously and begins to be addressed in realistic and effective ways. (*Children at Risk Prayer News*. Websites: <http://www.viva.org/> or <http://www.facesofchildren.net/> or e-mail: pray@viva.org or info@facesofchildren.net).

Sunday 28 February 2010

The person of the Holy Spirit: Seven-fold Spirit of God

The Word on it: *... Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God (Rev.4:5). The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord (Isa.11:2).*

Overview: The Holy Spirit's presence in front of the Throne of God is symbolised as seven lamps. The cross-reference to this verse is found in **Isaiah 11:2**. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we receive the fullness of the Spirit of God and He will give us His wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and the fear of the Lord. When we pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit, it is to make God known in one way or another, to honour Him and to do His work. The Person of the Holy Spirit (**Isa.11:2**) operates through us by manifesting His gifts in ministry (**2 Cor.1-11**) and should be visible in our life through the fruit of the Holy Spirit (**Gal.5:22**).

Yielding in prayer: Holy Spirit, we pray that You will reveal to us, the Church, who You are and what You want to do through and in us.

Focus on Israel: Purim Festival

From 28 February–1 March 2010, the Jewish people commemorate the fast of Esther and the festival of Purim. According to the history recorded in the Book of Esther, God delivered the Israelites from their death sentence as a nation. Consider reading through the book of Esther this week and pray for the many Jewish people to also come to the understanding of Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Redeemer from everlasting death. Ask for Christians to testify of everlasting life in Christ to Jewish people at this time. (*Christian Friends of Israel*. Tel.: 012 361 1437. Website: <http://www.cfjerusalem.org/> or e-mail: allwiese@lantic.net source: http://www.everythingjewish.com/Purim/Purim_origins.htm).

DAY-TO-DAY PRAYER GUIDE – March 2010

Monday 1 March 2010

Salvation focus: Druglords

A druglord usually heads up a drug network, and there are many of those in South Africa. International drug networks sometimes use these local networks to get their drugs through customs, in and out of the country. Pray for druglords to have a personal encounter with the Lord Jesus Himself, for their eyes to be opened to the truth of the gospel and their lives to be turned around in following Christ.

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit: Live holy lives

The Word on it: *Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? (1 Cor.6:19).*

Overview: Andrew Murray writes: It is the body that is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.6:19). If we are filled with the Spirit of God, it will manifest itself in the body too. If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live (Rom.8:13). The Spirit is particularly given to purify us and strengthen our bodies for His service. It is His indwelling in the body that enables us to share in the resurrection life. Does your life show the presence of the Holy Spirit?

Yielding in prayer: Father, we confess that we are still following the ways of the flesh, whether it is to overeat, to watch or read violent or immoral movies or books, etc. Please forgive us for not fearfully watching over our bodies as the temple of Your Holy Spirit.

Tuesday 2 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Dominica, Dominican Republic and Djibouti. Ask for hearts to turn to God.

Face life in and through God: What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness means dismissing a debt. The Greek word *aphesis* stands for a 'dismissal' or 'release'. When you grant forgiveness, you dismiss the debt owed to you. When you receive forgiveness, your debt is dismissed. (You are released from any requirement for repayment.) Jesus expressed the heart of forgiveness when He said, *Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you (Lk. 6:27).*

Practical: Think about your life. Make time during the day to write down everything that comes to mind about issues you think might be areas where you suffer because you are wronged by a friend, family member, child or spouse. Try to sit down with God at least once a week and intentionally pray through some of these issues.

Prayer: Father God, reveal to me things in my heart that are not pleasing to You right now. Help me to realise and admit the truth about every situation, especially where unforgiveness is concerned. I choose to trust being led by You, because I am not sure how to face difficult situations.

Crime focus: SMS tip-off initiative

The *Crime Line* initiative was started in June 2007 and is aimed at getting criminals off the streets. This project has been endorsed by the *South African Police Service (SAPS)*. If someone suspects someone else (even family or friends) to be involved in crime, they can now anonymously report it. Any information about criminals passed on to *Crime Line* will be acted upon – whether the perpetrators be murderers, rapists, robbers, hijackers, drug dealers, gangsters, child abusers, etc. (Send a SMS to 32211 or visit www.crimeline.co.za to send anonymous tip-offs relating to any crime or suspicious activity). Give thanks to the Lord for initiatives like these in answer to much prayer over the years! Pray that people will become aware of this initiative, and for many criminals to be put to trial for their deeds. Also pray for the salvation of criminals.