

Jericho Walls prayer guide – March 2010

But God

The next three months are extremely 'busy' months in terms of prayer. Many prayer initiatives are taking place and we invite you to please take note of these initiatives and share the information with other people, local churches and organisations that may want to participate.

Events and initiatives: March-May 2010

1. **1-21 March – Prayer focus on France.** France is at the centre of Western Europe and has a population of which about 30% is atheist and less than 1% active evangelicals. From 1-21 March *Pray for France* invites Christians from around the world to pray for France during the days before Easter. (Website: <http://www.prayforfrance.org/> or e-mail: dbroussard@ccfof.org).
2. **March – Forgiveness.** During March we will focus on forgiveness, which is a significant part of repentance and it will precede the time of repentance and prayer for revival from 3 April till 23 May.
3. **5 March – Women's World Day of Prayer.** The *Women's World Day of Prayer* is a worldwide movement of Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. It will be the 80th year that women in South Africa will participate – humbling themselves before God to pray around the theme *Let everything that has breath praise God*. Information available at: *Women's World Day of Prayer*, P.O. Box 2002, Kempton Park, 2002. Tel.: 011 975 4598 or fax: 011 975 2537. Website: www.wwdp.co.za or e-mail: wwdp@telkomsa.net
4. **6 March – Men's World Day of Prayer.** Men are also gathering in South Africa to pray for the world to come to the light of Jesus and will gather at different venues and at different times with the theme: *The man God uses*. Contact Ben Ferreira: Cell: 082 901 4219, tel.: 011 919 9038 (o), 012 348 4966 (a/h), e-mail: wereldbiddag@absamail.co.za
5. **22 March – Day of Prayer in Cape Town.** This year it is 10 years ago that the first *Day of prayer and repentance* took place in the *Newlands Rugby Stadium* in Cape Town. On 22 March people will gather united in prayer (from 13:00-16:00) at the new *Cape Town Stadium*, to pray for the youth and the upcoming *World Soccer Cup*. (Contact: Antinia de Waal at tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 021 856 1174 and e-mail: cape@gdop-sa.com).
6. **3-12 April – Redigging the wells.** For 10 days, Christians will have special prayer meetings in towns and cities that experienced revival in the past. Through research we found 74 places in South Africa that experienced revival in the past (and there are certainly more). For more information, contact Anneke Hanekom, tel.: 012 365 3213 or fax: 012 365 3214 and e-mail: info@global24-7.org
7. **13 April - 12 May – Focus on Revival.** During these 30 days we will focus on revival on a personal and national level. There are prayer pointers for each day in the prayer guide.
8. **13-22 May -10 Days** of prayer before Pentecost Sunday. During these 10 days we will pray with the whole world for 10 days from Joel 2 that God will come in His power upon all the nations of the earth.
9. **23 May – Global Day of Prayer (GDOP)** in which all 220 nations around the world will participate.

What a privilege to be allowed to stand before God's throne of grace and to be asked by God *to ask boldly and freely* for our needs and the needs of the world. Let us not neglect this opportunity, this holy calling, this work of every Christian which will bring God's powerful Hand to move with righteousness, salvation and blessing.

There is no doubt that 2010 is an abnormally busy year filled with great opportunities for the Church. Yet, it is also a year when we will need the power, wisdom and revelation of the Holy Spirit, the protection of God and the willingness to take up our responsibility for the opportunities that God brings to us.

Why pray?

Prayer is not man's idea. It is God's idea. The invitation to pray comes from Him. It is He who calls us to stand before His throne night and day, to give Him no rest, reminding Him of His promises (**Isa.62:6-7; Heb.4:16; Matt.7:7-8; 1 Thess.5:17**) If God calls us to pray, it is because He wants to help us, to answer us. For this reason He gave us more than 7,000 promises that we can use to 'appeal' to Him for help. Remember, they are His promises. He made them. He wants to answer them. Let us then pray them boldly, in faith, not doubting, expectantly, night and day. Let us ask for abundance and not only to survive. And I am not referring to financial abundance in the first place. Let us pray for our churches, communities, our country and the world.

God says: *Come, boldly, with faith, faithfully, selflessly, without selfishness, with hope and certainty, knowing that I am almighty. Come and speak to Me.*

Bennie Mostert

Managing Director: *Jericho Walls International Prayer Network*

Eph.3:20

What, where and when: National

12 -14 February 2010 - Freedom Road Rally: *Christian Motorcyclists Association, Cape Town (C.M.A.)* will have their annual family *Freedom Road Rally* in Ellensrust, Stilbaai. This is a time of celebration, praise and worship and also to find opportunities to promote friendships with secular bikers and show them a way of life other than what they know. (C.M.A., tel.: 021 982 2303 or fax: 021 982 0997 or e-mail: cmawp@absamail.co.za).

5 March - Women's World Day of Prayer. The *Women's World Day of Prayer* is a worldwide movement of Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. It will be the 80th year that women in South Africa will participate – humbling themselves before God to pray around the theme *Let everything that has breath praise God*. Information available at: *Women's World Day of Prayer*, P.O. Box 2002, Kempton Park, 2002. Tel.: 011 975 4598 or fax: 011 975 2537. Website: www.wwdp.co.za or e-mail: wwdp@telkomsa.net

6 March - Men's World Day of Prayer. Men are also gathering in South Africa to pray for the world to come to the light of Jesus and will gather at different venues and at different times, the theme being *The man God uses*. Contact Ben Ferreira: Cell: 082 901 4219, tel.: 011 919 9038 (o), 012 348 4966 (a/h), e-mail: werelbiddag@absamail.co.za

22 March - Day of Prayer in Cape Town. This year is the tenth anniversary of the first *Day of prayer and repentance*, which took place at the *Newlands Rugby Stadium* in Cape Town. *Global Day of Prayer (GDOP)* and *Cape Peninsula Transformation (CPT)* are calling people in Cape Town to gather and unite in prayer (from 13:00-16:00) at the new *Cape Town Stadium*, to pray for the youth and the upcoming *World Soccer Cup*. Only 50,000 people can be accommodated. For tickets and more information, contact: Antinia de Waal at tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 021 856 1174 and e-mail: cape@gdop-sa.com

3-12 April - Redigging the wells. For 10 days, Christians will have special prayer meetings in towns and cities that experienced revival in the past. Through research we found 74 specific places in South Africa that experienced revival in the past (and there are certainly more). For more information, contact Anneke Hanekom, tel.: 012 365 3213 or fax: 012 365 3214 and e-mail: info@global24-7.org

13 April - 12 May – Focus on Revival. During these 30 days we will focus on revival on a personal and national level. There are prayer pointers for each day in the prayer guide.

13-22 May -10 Days of prayer before Pentecost Sunday. During these 10 days we will pray with other Christians across the world for 10 days from **Joel 2**, that God will come in His power upon all the nations of the earth.

23 May - Global Day of Prayer (GDOP) in which all 220 nations around the world will participate.

2-5 April - 72 Hours non-stop Africa praise for Christ (project 4320). From 12 noon on Good Friday (2 April 2010) to 12 noon on Easter Monday (5 April 2010) gospel music artists and people will gather to worship God at the *Ellis Park Stadium* in Johannesburg. (Tel.: 011 791 2304 or fax: 011 791 3374. Website: www.project4320.com or e-mail: project4320@gmail.com or rccgreg@rccgsa.org).

14-18 April - He's Alive performance. *Passion Play Ministries* of Cape Town will be putting on their annual performance of *He's Alive* at the *Bellville Civic Centre*. For further information please contact Bronwyne Scott, tel.: 084 769 7350 or Melvyn Abrahams, tel.: 082 976 7395. Website: www.passionplay.org.za

16-18 April - Final Mighty Men Conference. To register for the *Mighty Men Conference* at Shalom this year, visit: www.mmc2010.com

15 May - Children's Prayer Network SA - practical workshop. On 15 May 2010 the *Children's Prayer Network SA* will host a practical workshop for children aged 7 – 16 and those who work with children. Do not miss out on this opportunity! Jane Mackie of Australia and members of the task team of the *Children in Prayer Global Consultation (CiP)* will be presenters. For more details contact Gerhard Botha on cell: 083 537 9770 or fax: 086 672 9758. Website: www.cpnsa.co.za or e-mail: pray@mweb.co.za

20-21 May - GDOP 2010 Conference. To celebrate God's glory, leaders from various networks and ministries (Prayer, Transformation, Mission, Church and Youth) will be gathering together from around the world for the *GDOP2010 Conference* on 20-21 May 2010 in Cape Town, to share the 'untold stories' of the 'unknown heroes of faith!' (*Transformation Africa*. 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).

23 May - Global Day of Prayer (GDOP): The 10th celebration of the *Global Day of Prayer* – at the venue where it all started! It will also serve as the closing function for the *GDOP2010 Conference* (19-22 May 2010) in the *Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC)*. For more information about tickets, contact *Computicket*, tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 086 675 8584 / 021 856 1174. Website: <http://www.globaldayofprayer.com/> or e-mail: info@globaldayofprayer.com

What, where and when: International

18 April - International Day of Prayer for Turkey. Join the Church in Turkey in prayer for breakthroughs for the gospel in their country. We therefore call upon the body of Christ worldwide to join us each year on April 18, to pray for the Church and the land/people of Turkey. To pray that the Church in Turkey is anointed and strengthened in the Holy Spirit to live to the glory of God; and to pray that the outcome of this will bring hope and

blessing to the land and people of Turkey as hearts and eyes are opened to the Kingdom of God. Websites: <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/church.group.announces.day.of.prayer.for.turkey/23052.htm> or <http://www.smartchristian.com/?p=5711>

Did you know?

Massive 'Reconversion' event in India aimed at Christians

Hundreds of tribal Christians and adherents of aboriginal religion from villages in Maharashtra state were reportedly 'reconverted' to Hinduism in the Mobai suburb of Thane at a ceremony led by a Hindu nationalist cleric. Hindu nationalists attack Christians in tribal areas because they provide social and development services, regarded as competition by rightwing Hindus seeking to woo tribal voters. Pray for Indian Christians to remain steadfast despite persecution, responding with love and brokenness towards their persecutors. Also pray for government to step in, that the 'untouchables' will have the freedom to choose Christ. Pray for each Indian Christian to have a fresh personal revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Lars Widerberg. *Intercessors Network*. Storskiftesgatan 87, S-58334 Linköping, Sweden. Website: <http://www.intercessorsnetwork.org/> or e-mail: Intercessors.Network@Comhem.se).

Become involved in outreach opportunities for the Soccer World Cup

The following are some of many ministry projects focusing on evangelism during the *World Soccer Cup*:

72 Hours non-stop Africa praise for Christ (project 4320) will take place from 2-5 April at the *Ellis Park Stadium* in Johannesburg, where gospel music artists and people will gather to worship God. (Tel.: 011 791 2304 or fax: 011 791 3374. Website: www.project4320.com or e-mail: project4320@gmail.com or rccgreg@rccgsa.org).

The Ultimate Goal (TUG) is an outreach initiative taking place during the *Soccer World Cup* during June and July 2010, inviting a network of local and international churches as well as *para-church* organisations and ministries to join them in one common goal: to bring hope and change to South Africa. Website: <http://www.theultimategoal.co.za/> or send prayer requests to e-mail: prayer@theultimategoal.co.za

Kickstart reaches out in practical ways to Muslims in your community. They invite missions organisations, companies etc. to be trained on how to share the gospel with Muslims. *MECCA (Muslim Evangelism Care & Communication Assistance)* will be a phone number always manned by someone with a Bible and a *Muslim Evangelism resource database* with questions and answers. Christians or Muslims can phone in to ask help with Muslim discipleship. Contact Manfred Jung, *Christian Concern for Muslims, (CCM)*. Cell: 084 368 5655 or tel.: 011 976 4044. E-mail: mjung@ccm.org.za

World Harvest wants to involve around 500 missionaries from SA and other countries, languages and culture groups, and divide them into smaller teams of around 10 individuals. These teams will be sent to the different host cities and other towns in SA for outreach and other community work. Teams will consist of individuals with different language capabilities. Contact *World Harvest* at: cell: 076 091 4299 / 082 901 7507 or 083 308 7993. Website: <http://www.2010worldharvest.co.za/concept.html> or e-mail: info@2010worldharvest.co.za

What's online

Bible on Facebook

Website: www.facebook.com/TheBible

The Bible Fan Page on Facebook just passed the 1.2 million fan mark and according to *Inside*, Facebook is one of the fastest growing pages. The ministry targets prayer, support, evangelism etc. Even Muslims and atheists are visiting it and numerous Christians have started to read their Bibles again.

Connecting kids to God's global purpose

Website: <http://store.calebresources.org/ProductDetail.jsp?LISTID=80000445-1186515446>

Do you want your kids to know that there's more to this world than their friends and family? This resource presents a concise, Biblical worldview; allowing kids to discover God's purpose and plan of salvation for all nations. It gives a historical overview of Christianity, explores and makes other cultures and religions of the world understandable, etc.

Adopt a Terrorist for Prayer

Website: http://www.brigada.org/2009/07/26_2388 or <http://www.atfp.org>

Here you can now explore the data base of FBI and U.S. State Department identified terrorists and terrorism sponsors who are both at large and detained. Consider registering a prayer commitment to pray for at least one of these terrorists and encourage your friends to join you. You can also consider establishing a similar prayer site to this for your own country in your own language.

Easter Podcast

Website: www.FaithComesByHearing.com

An audio Bible ministry has produced a special Easter podcast titled *Easter: The Story*. Listeners can hear this audio Bible story in either MP3, wav format, or straight from the website taken from the gospel of Mark. This ministry's mission is to record the audio drama New Testament in 2,000 languages, and to start 1.8 million Bible-listening groups by 2016, in an effort to reach the 50% of the world who cannot read.

Revival in Iran

Website: <http://www.revivaliniran.org/>

Become involved in sending Bibles to Iran and also commit to pray for Iran on a regular basis. This is an excellent site for churches to bring an awareness of what is happening in this closed country.

Quotes

Prayer is self-discipline. To pray is to grow in grace. To tarry in the presence of the King leads to new loyalty and devotion on the part of the faithful subjects. Christian character grows in the secret place of prayer. - Samuel M. Zwemer

Beware in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do. Expect unexpected things, 'above all that we ask or think'. Each time, before you intercede, be quiet first, and worship God in His glory. Think of what He can do, and how He delights to hear the prayers of His redeemed people. Think of your place and privilege in Christ, and expect great things! - Andrew Murray

The power of prayer has never been tried to its full capacity in any church. If we want to see mighty wonders of divine grace and power wrought in the place of weakness, failure and disappointment, let the whole Church answer God's standing challenge: "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knows not." - James Hudson Taylor

All great soul-winners have been men of much and mighty prayer, and all great revivals have been preceded and carried out by persevering, prevailing knee-work in the closet. - Samuel Logan Brengle

You must pray with all your might. That does not mean saying your prayers, or sitting gazing about in church or chapel with eyes wide open while someone else says them for you. It means fervent, effectual, untiring wrestling with God. This kind of prayer, be sure the devil and the world and your own indolent, unbelieving nature will oppose. They will pour water on this flame. - William Booth

By intercessory prayer we can hold off Satan from other lives and give the Holy Ghost a chance with them. No wonder Jesus put such tremendous emphasis on prayer! – Oswald Chambers

To arouse one man or woman to the tremendous power of prayer for others is worth more than the combined activity of a score of average Christians. - A. J. Gordon

24-7 Prayer watch focus: March-June 2010

These prayer focuses are to encourage those involved in a 24-7 house of prayer to focus in prayer on the same things at the same time. They are only guidelines and watch coordinators may add their own focuses as the Holy Spirit leads them. Will you not consider putting up these prayer pointers in your prayer room in creative ways, or use them in your quiet time? Also inform others and encourage them to pray for these issues during each of the monthly focuses. More information on these issues is available free of charge from our website: www.jwipn.com. Also remember to subscribe to our weekly Prayer Alert at cape@jwipn.com, which covers current issues in prayer.

March: Forgiveness

One of the most difficult issues to address is that of forgiveness. All of us are wronged some or other time. At the same time, we wrong other people, whether knowingly or unknowingly. During March we focus on the different issues of forgiveness; forgiving others, forgiving yourself, and also how to reconcile after forgiving someone.

April: Redigging the wells of revival

For 10 days, from 3-12 April, people will have special prayer meetings in towns and cities that experienced revival in the past. Consider to pray through the prayer pointers at this time for those wells of revival to be opened again and for God to pour out His Spirit of revival on the Church in South Africa. From 13 April - 12 May the focus will shift to pray for revival in our nation: personal and national revival.

May: 10 Days of night-and-day prayer and the *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. Last year, representatives of all the countries in the world partook in this day of prayer, and we trust for the same to happen again this year as we celebrate 10 years of prayer around the globe. Let us, together with Christians across the world, seek the face of the Lord for revival, the salvation of the unsaved, the power of the Holy Spirit in the Church, for the transformation of communities and that God's hope will make a breakthrough in the dark places on earth.

June: Focus on *Children at Risk*

There is so much violence against children. Neglected children are seen even at rubbish dumps. We see the 7 million street children in Brazil, child soldiers whose eyes are lifeless, children living with their parents through the traumas of war, child prostitution, child slavery and child labour. May we find time this month to sit down and just think about the needs of children. And may it be that God will give us tears to cry for the children. May our hearts be broken by the brokenness of the children. And may God be gracious to us so that we will pray with faith and tears and also do what our hands find to do.

Monday 1 March 2010

Salvation focus: Drug lords

A drug lord 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 drug lords 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 so that they follow 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 flesh, you will live (Rom.8:13). The Spirit is given particularly 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 defile our thoughts by watching or reading violent or immoral movies or books, etc. Please forgive us for not fearfully watching over our bodies as the temple of Your Holy Spirit and help us to repent.

Tuesday 2 March 2010

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

Face life through God's eyes: What is forgiveness?

Forgiveness means dismissing a debt. The Greek word *aphesis* stands for '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 obligation toward 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 of every situation, especially where an unwillingness to forgive is concerned. I choose to trust being led by You, because I am not sure how to face these difficult situations.

Prayer focus: France

France, at the centre of Western Europe, has a population of which about 30% is atheist and less than 1% active evangelicals. *Pray for France* invites Christians from around the world to pray for France from 1-21 March, during the days before Easter. "I have been amazed at the increased openness to Jesus in just the past year," said the president of the *Christian Community Foundation of France*. This is definitely the fruit of passionate prayer. (Website: <http://www.prayforfrance.org/> or e-mail: dbroussard@ccfof.org). Give thanks to the Lord for this and other initiatives. Pray for the heart of the people of France to turn back to the Lord Jesus.

Wednesday 3 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer East Timor, Ecuador and Egypt. Ask for receptiveness to the gospel.

Salvation focus: Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA)

Christian bikers reach out to other bikers on a regular basis. Please pray for bikers to be open to the gospel and to gain victory over addictions and preconceived wrong ideas. Ask for grace so that ungodly relationships between the various groups of bikers will not prevail. Pray especially for those who make a decision to follow Christ – especially women. Ask that members will remain strong and not become judgmental. Pray for unity between Christian bikers and an increased awareness among members that their calling is a matter of life and death. (*Christian Motorcycle Association C.M.A. Western Province*. Tel.: 021 982 2303, fax: 021 982 0997 or e-mail: cmawp@absamail.co.za).

City-wide prayer focus: Day of prayer for the youth and Soccer World Cup

On 22 March, *Global Day of Prayer (GDOP)*, in collaboration with *Cape Peninsula Transformation (CPT)*, will host a city-wide prayer event in Cape Town. Favour was granted by the *City of Cape Town* – city council to host the event free of charge at the new *Cape Town stadium* (previously known as *Greenpoint stadium*), to test the stadium's technical equipment and operational systems before handing the stadium over to *Fifa* for the *Soccer World Cup* in June/July. Give thanks to the Lord for this amazing opportunity to cover the city with prayer in the brand new stadium. Please pray for the final arrangements, the speaker Angus Buchan, the programme, and that many people will attend. (Contact: Antinia de Waal at tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 021 856 1174 and e-mail: cape@gdop-sa.com).

Thursday 4 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea and Eritrea. Ask for the church to grow.

Face life through God's eyes: Is it possible to sin beyond God's willingness to forgive?

Of all the religions in the world, only the Bible teaches that God forgives completely. Often people miss out on this free gift of God's forgiveness because they think what they have done is just too terrible to be forgiven. Yet, mercy is not getting what you deserve. God cleanses us from all unrighteousness, but there is a condition; we have to confess our sins! (1 John 1:9). Confess literally means 'to agree' with God. When we agree with God that what we have done is wrong, we not only admit that we have sinned, but then there is also a willingness to stop doing what is wrong (Ps.32:5). God is faithful, He will forgive us if we come with truly repentant hearts, not keeping sin against us.

Practical: Are there things you have done that you feel might be impossible to be forgiven? Write them all down, do not skip one! It is important, for believing that God cannot forgive you is what the enemy wants you to believe so that you will remain miserable. Take these things to God in prayer, once and for all.

Prayer: Father God, today I bring before you things that I have done against others and against You. Please forgive me for believing the lie that these sins are too great for You to forgive me. Today I lay them at Your feet. Please help me to let go of these things, to turn away from them and grow in faith and understanding of the complete price Jesus paid on the cross for all of my sins.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Safety and security

Lift up in prayer all preparation, planning and proposed strategies to ensure safety and security during the different matches and across the country. Ask for individuals who are being trained, to complete their training, not to fall prey to bribery or any form of unrighteousness when performing their jobs during the *Soccer World Cup*.

Plan ahead for the <i>Global Day of Prayer</i> on 23 May 2010: Visit www.globaldayofprayer.com

Friday 5 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Estonia, Ethiopia and Faeroe Islands. Ask for a hunger after God's Word.

Prayer focus: Women's World Day of Prayer 2010

The *Women's World Day of Prayer* is a worldwide movement of Christian women who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. In South Africa, we will be celebrating our 80th year of taking part in this event as once again the world will unite today; as women will gather to humble themselves and pray around the theme, *Let everything that has breath praise God*. Consider taking time in prayer today, even if it is not possible to attend a meeting somewhere. (*Womens World Day of Prayer*, P.O. Box 2002, Kempton Park, 2002. Tel.: 011 975 4598 or fax: 011 975 2537. Website: www.wwdp.co.za or e-mail: wwdp@telkomsa.net).

Prostitution focus: India

Lady Care offers limited health care, crisis intervention, counselling and education for women who are or have been involved in prostitution. Prostitution is illegal in India, but it is not hard to find women for sale. When offered a bribe, corrupt politicians and police officers overlook it. Poor Indian families sometimes sell their daughters to pimps and brothels. Pray for this and other ministries to be able to effectively minister to thousands of women and children. Ask that Christian Indian men will set the example to love their wives as Christ loved the Church. (*Global Prayer Digest*, e-mail: GPDMOD@wciu.edu).

Article: Men-2-Pray: What men must pray for men

We so often see women praying for us men, but there is a place and time when we men should pray for each other. God is undoubtedly busy doing something among the men in our country. I am thinking of Angus Buchan's *Mighty Men* conferences, the Daniel conferences presented at Moreleta Park, the smaller Daniel conferences all over the country, and also the numerous networks, initiatives and congregations that present camps for men. Literally hundreds of thousands of men are reached in this way every year and the stories in the wake of these gatherings are absolutely amazing. I would also like to encourage every man to watch the film *Fireproof* and read the book *The Love Dare*, and to put into practice what they gain from the content. God is busy with a restoration process among the men in our country; let us men pray for our men.

1. Pray that every man will recall the covenant made with his wife before God, and honour his marriage vows.
2. Pray that men will treat their wives with respect, and love them so much that they will even be prepared to die for their wives like Christ was prepared to die for the Church (**Ef.5:25**).
3. Pray for men to take their place as priests in the home: to pray for their wives and children – to pray as if they are the only ones praying for them. That men will not make excuses why they can't pray for their wives and children (no time, don't know how, etc.)
4. Pray that the conduct of men in the workplace will be ethical and that they will be men with integrity. Ask that they do not continue with practices that are not in line with the Word of God, and that they will make a choice for God, irrespective of the consequences.
5. Ask that men will "pray with holy hands lifted up to God" all over, everywhere, wherever they assemble (**1 Tim.2:8**). This is God's will. Pray that men will start prayer groups in congregations and in their workplace to pray for the congregation, the workplace and the country.
6. Pray for the salvation of hundreds of thousands of men from all population groups in our country. Start by writing down the names of 3-5 men and to pray for their salvation. Persist in this; don't stop in a few weeks or months' time. Persevere. Plead with God for the salvation of these men as if you are pleading for your own salvation.
7. Make sure when you pray, that there is no bitterness inside you towards your wife, children and the people at your place of work. You cannot pray for them from a judgmental heart filled with bitterness. Ask God to give you faith – faith comes from reading the Word and praying God's promises (**Rom.10:17**).
8. Persevere in prayer. Don't pray sporadically, but pray continually. Pray from the heart and regularly. Ask the Holy Spirit to keep on reminding you constantly. The earnest prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results. Remember: Elijah was as human as we are and when he prayed earnestly, God performed extraordinary wonders (**Jas.5:16-18**).

9. Pray that more men will make themselves available to go out to the mission fields of the world and to bring the gospel to the unreached in other countries. More than 1.9 billion people are currently regarded as unreached.

Saturday 6 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What forgiveness is not

Misconceptions abound when the word forgiveness is mentioned. Some think forgiveness is the equivalent of excusing sin, saying that what was wrong, is now right or was not really 'that bad'. Yet this is not the example of forgiveness that Jesus demonstrated. When He encountered the mob of men eager to stone a woman caught in adultery, He chose not to stone her; however, He never excused her act either. Instead, He said, "Go, and sin no more" (**John 8:11**). The wrong you have done can be forgiven, but you have a responsibility to stop sinning.

Practical: Think and write down things you do which you know are wrong. In your prayer time, take special effort to lay down each of these things at God's feet in prayer. Take a clear, intentional decision to stop doing what is wrong. If need be, share one or two things with a trustworthy friend, asking them to pray with you on a regular basis, to keep you accountable.

Prayer: Father God, that which I do not want to do, I do, and what I want to do I do not do! Today I bring these issues before Your throne of grace. I repent of my wrongdoing in each case. I do not want to sin anymore. Please forgive me. Fortify me with Your strength to resist evil, and keep me from falling into temptation and persisting in sin any longer.

Prayer focus: Men's World Day of Prayer 2010

Men are also gathering in South Africa to pray for the world to come to the light of Jesus and will gather today in different venues and at different times, the theme being: *The man God uses*. Please pray that God will touch the hearts and minds of men gathering for prayer today. Pray that they will realise and take up their godly role in their families, the business world and as prophets to the nations. (Ben Ferreira: cell: 082 901 4219, tel.: 011 919 9038 (o), 012 348 4966 (a/h), e-mail: wereldbiddag@absamail.co.za).

Sunday 7 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What does a forgiving heart look like?

When the Spirit of Christ is rooted within you, He produces fruit consistent with the character of Christ. From these you will know you have grown spiritually, like if for example, you are granting forgiveness as part of your Christian lifestyle. A forgiving heart is a loving heart and does not keep a record of the bad things the offender has done. Scripture is clear in **1 Pet.4:8** *Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.*

Practical: Think of people you encounter in your daily walk towards whom you feel love and appreciation despite things that have happened between you in the past. Write this down too!

Prayer: Father God, I thank you for enabling me to love people more and more. Thank you for granting me the hope that those offending me can change by Your grace as You have changed me.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: God's peace

Pray that there will be no labour unrest in any sphere of the economy prior to, and during the *Soccer World Cup*. Ask that issues will be settled, that there will be order in our country and that our people will be open and willing to receive the nations of the world in our midst with the love and testimony of Jesus Christ.

Monday 8 March 2010

Salvation focus: Drug pushers

It is shocking how many school children are involved in selling drugs to their peers. Lift up in prayer every young person who is trapped in drug networks and pushing drugs on the streets, at schools and campuses. Pray for each one to accept Jesus Christ as his/her personal Saviour. Also pray that they will stop selling drugs.

Health focus: Eye clinic helps people

A free mobile eye clinic made its way to Andhra Pradesh, India. The doctors examined patients and identified those in need of eye surgery. They all received surgery at a nearby hospital. This venture also made it possible to share the gospel with the villagers, allowing them to open their hearts to understand God's love for them. (ASSIST News Service (ANS). P.O. Box 609, Lake Forest, CA 92609-0609 USA. Website: www.assistnews.net or e-mail: assistnews@aol.com). Give thanks to the Lord for such answers to prayer. Ask for many more opportunities for the sick to find healing, and hearts to receive Christ.

Tuesday 9 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Falkland Islands, Fiji and Finland. Ask for adults to submit to Jesus.

Face life through God's eyes: I don't feel like forgiving, how can I be expected to forgive?

Forgiveness is not based on a feeling, but rather on the fact that we—all of us—are called by God to forgive. It is a step of obedience, to do what is right. Forgiveness is not an emotion; it is in the first place an act of the will. Therefore, what "seems right" according to our feelings, can easily be wrong! "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death" (**Prov.14:12**). To forgive seems 'unfair', especially if you or your loved ones have really been wronged. Yet, Jesus was wronged on our behalf, having to die on the cross. Jesus Himself had to forgive others and is therefore able to help us to forgive.

Practical: Think of instances that come to mind in which you just do not feel to forgive. Be brave, write them down! For as long as we put off dealing with them, they are dealing with us, by making us feel miserable and unhappy. Deal with it, make sure to put it behind you.

Prayer: Father God, when I think about the issues I listed, I really do not feel to forgive at all. I confess this to You in all honesty. Make me willing to forgive. Help and teach me how to forgive like You want me to, so that I may obey Your command to forgive others as You have forgiven me (**Matt.6:12**).

Christian broadcasting focus: *Trans World Radio (TWR) in West Africa*

The Mossi live primarily on the Mossi Plateau in central Burkina Faso. An estimated 12% are Christians. *TWR* is currently the only known Christian broadcaster in the Mòoré language. The Mòoré programmes will provide discipleship as well as practical Biblical application focused on the needs of the Mossi. (*Trans World Radio-Africa*. P.O. Box 4232, Kempton Park, 1620. Tel.: 011 974 2885, fax: 011 974 9960, cell: 072 6414475. Website: www.twrafrica.org or e-mail: prnews@twraro.org.za). Thank the Lord for this progress made. Ask that many hearts will be touched and renewed with new life in Christ Jesus.

Wednesday 10 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer France, French Guiana and French Polynesia. Ask for children to turn to God.

Focus on finances: Debt is on the increase

About 7% of South Africa's adults claim they could not survive without borrowing money. (Fact-A-Day. Website: <http://www.eighty20.co.za> or e-mail: fact.a.day@eighty20.co.za). This implies that some people are overspending on normal household necessities or they are not saving money to buy that something extra they want. Continue to

pray that people will pay their debt, refrain from buying unnecessary goods and that they will hand over their budget and financial situation into God's hands. Pray for those who are caught in a lifestyle of debt, for God to set them free.

Focus on health: Factor identified that stimulates spreading of brain cancer

National Institutes of Health has found that the activity of a protein in brain cells helps stimulate the spread of an aggressive brain cancer called *glioblastoma multiforme (GBM)*. In a move toward therapy, a small designer protein can block this activity and reduce the spreading of *GBM* cells grown in the laboratory. (Website: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/08/090818150025.htm>). Give thanks to the Lord for breakthroughs like these. Please pray for research to be completed and used to the benefit of patients soon.

Thursday 11 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Gabon, Georgia and Germany. Pray that people will submit themselves to the Only true, living God.

Face life through God's eyes: Let go of your resentment

To forgive means to release your resentment toward your offender. The Greek verb *aphiemi* means 'to send away', meaning, 'to forgive', or 'release the penalty' when someone wrongs you. We therefore have to let go of our right to hear "I'm sorry", our right to be bitter or to get even. To forgive is to release your rights regarding the offence, your right to dwell on the offence, to hold on to the offence and the right to keep bringing up the offence. **Prov.17:9** is clear on the consequences of this matter: *He who covers over an offence promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.*

Practical: Are there instances where you realise you expect your offender to say he or she is sorry, or where you find yourself bringing up what happened every now and again? These are signs that you have not yet granted full forgiveness on a certain matter. Write down such instances as the Holy Spirit reminds you today, and take them to the Lord in prayer this week, laying down each one at His feet.

Prayer: Father, I confess that Your forgiveness towards me is perfect and complete. I also confess that I do not forgive wholeheartedly in all circumstances. I lift up in prayer each issue I wrote down where I'm struggling to let go of my resentment. Today I ask that You will help me to forgive these people for what they have done, completely and wholeheartedly. Strengthen me to forgive others like You forgive me.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: God's peace

Pray that there will be no labour unrest in any sphere of the economy prior to, and during the *Soccer World Cup*. Ask that issues will be settled, that there will be order in our country and that our people will be open and willing to receive the nations of the world in our midst with the love and testimony of Jesus Christ.

Friday 12 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Ghana, Gibraltar and Greece. Ask for hearts to turn to God.

Focus on outreach: There is Hope Ministries

There is Hope Ministries reports on God's supernatural provision this past year. The *Wellness Program* on farms focusing on uplifting people through living Godly values, is doing well. They have also seen at least 1,000 personal mentoring e-mails the past year through their Internet ministry and someone blessed them with a vehicle. (*There is Hope Ministries*. Tel.: 028 271 5124, Websites: www.Hope365.co.za or www.KnowingGod.co.za or e-mail: hope@hope365.co.za). Give thanks to God for His faithfulness and for answering so many prayers over the years. Pray for strength and much courage for this team to continue their work.

Focus on Hollywood: The fatherless generation

The *Hope for Homeless Youth (HHY)* ministry team gathers on Hollywood's teeming *Walk of Fame*. They hand out food and ministry information and invite each young person to return and enter their one-year discipleship program. As usual, Director Clayton Gollieher will sleep in a nearby parking lot, his sleeping bag a few feet from several dozen homeless youths! An estimated 1.5 million youths live on America's streets; each year 5,000 will die of suicide, homicide and accidental drug overdose, and at least 40% are not wanted at home. (Website: <http://www.hopeforhomelessyouth.org/>). Give thanks to the Lord for opportunities like these to bring hope to the hopeless. Ask for lives to be restored and many to accept Christ.

Saturday 13 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What can I do when I do not feel like forgiving?

We cannot really control what our offenders do, but we do have control over the way we think about them. Evaluate your thoughts about those who offend you. Remember: your thoughts direct your feelings. Only you can effectively do this exercise, as only you (and God) know your real thoughts.

Practical: Every time you realise your thoughts are running away with you concerning a person or matter that disturbs you, just bring yourself to a stop. Ask God to help you and pray for every thought to be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ (**2 Cor.10:5**), for the weapons of our warfare in pulling down strongholds are mighty in God.

Prayer: Father God, I confess that I let my negative thoughts influence my feelings most of the time. Please forgive me for not applying godly discipline in this matter. I pray that whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, anything that is excellent or praiseworthy, that You will remind me to only think about such things (**Phil.4:8**).

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: God's peace

Pray for political peace in all spheres of government, that law and order will be maintained. Ask for all members of parliament and government to walk with integrity, to be diligent in performing their duties during the *Soccer World Cup* and that they set a proper example, especially for young people.

Sunday 14 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What does a forgiving heart look like?

Joyful, taking to heart the goodness of God and His sovereignty over all events in life, even the painful ones. Also, a joyful awareness that God is able to turn trials into triumph. Scripture is clear from **Philippians 1:18-19** *I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through ... the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.*

Practical: Take time today to list all those things in your life in which you can clearly see God's goodness, provision and sovereignty, even amidst difficult circumstances. Then give thanks to the Lord for each of these items you wrote down.

Prayer: Father God, I give thanks to each instance in my life where I can see Your goodness and mercy following me. You bless my soul with peace, provide in my basic needs and show compassion for me every day.

TIK-free for Jesus

Anton is 25 years old and was a TIK user for two years. He was involved in a bad relationship and wanted to lose weight and then ended up amongst gangsters and even became a drug dealer himself. He was completely caught up in the world of crime, sexual abuse and landed in prison six times in one year! He also stole from his family and

friends to support his addiction. Eventually he was using as much as 6 grams of TIK on a daily basis. Anton takes up his story: "Then a friend of mine came to help me. I even stole from him, but he never gave up on me and even stood by me when I was diagnosed with HIV. He told me that I needed to get God back in my life and after the shock of my HIV-status I agreed to go to *Karl Bremer Hospital* to detox. I had no withdrawal symptoms (Praise God!) and have NO wish to go back to that life! I started a group *TIK FREE 4 JESUS* and my heart is to make a difference and get as many people as possible to join in, to fight back and beat their addiction. I want to thank God for the chance He gave me to turn my life around and do all of this without rehab!!" (*TIK FREE 4 JESUS*. 24 hour Prayer Line 083 331 9615. Website: www.tikfree4jesus.co.za or e-mail pray4me.tikfree4jesus@gmail.com). Give thanks to God for answering prayers focusing on drug addiction in our country.

Monday 15 March 2010

Salvation focus: Drug addicts

Lift up in prayer every person in our country, young or old, who is addicted to drugs. Especially pray for those addicted to heroin and TIK to have a personal revelation, amidst their circumstances, of who Jesus is. Pray for their salvation, to be completely delivered from drugs and to become a testimony of God's power and love to others.

City-wide prayer focus: Day of prayer for the youth and Soccer World Cup

It is now 10 years since the first *Day of prayer and repentance* took place in the *Newlands Rugby stadium* in Cape Town. Lift up in prayer the last preparations as people will gather to pray for the upcoming *Soccer World Cup* in the new Cape Town stadium, the youth and emergency services on duty in and around the stadium for this and upcoming events. Please pray that every seat will be filled with someone with a heart to cry out to God for our nation and the nations of the earth that are literally on our doorstep within the next few months. (Contact: Antinia de Waal at tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 021 856 1174 and e-mail: cape@gdop-sa.com).

Tuesday 16 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Greenland, Grenada and Guadeloupe. Ask for receptiveness to the gospel.

Face life through God's eyes: Reconciliation must follow forgiveness

Forgiveness focuses on the offence. Reconciliation focuses on the relationship. Forgiveness can take place with only one person. Reconciliation requires at least two people. Forgiveness can be directed one-way, but reconciliation is mutual, occurring two-ways. Forgiveness is a free gift to the one who has broken trust, but reconciliation is a restored relationship based on restored trust. Forgiveness can be given, regardless of a lack of repentance of the guilty party, but reconciliation requires repentance.

Practical: Prayerfully meditate on these statements on forgiveness and reconciliation. As the Lord leads you, write down instances where you have forgiven a person, but not yet made the effort to be reconciled to them. Maybe you have distanced yourself from someone without them knowing why. Ask God to show you how to address such situations. This does not necessarily mean you have to become intimate friends with all of your offenders, (e.g. rapist or murderer) it only means there must not be anything in your heart preventing forgiveness or reconciliation between you and the offender.

Prayer: Father God, I know there are people with whom I must reconcile. Please show me how to approach them in each individual case so I may glorify Your Name in every situation. Please give me favour to be reconciled in all relationships with other people, so they will trust and believe what I say is honest and from my heart.

Focus on Cambodia: Sex trade

Thousands of women and children are involved in the sex trade in Cambodia and Thailand. *OneHope* launched a prevention campaign in the 'green harvest' areas. The crime lords from the cities go out into rural areas to recruit children and young people from farmers who are ignorant and poor. Promises are made, and the poor sell their children so that they can get money. Pray that the doors remain open for ministry by *OneHope* and other ministries. Ask for breakthroughs to help poor communities and all forms of sex trade to stop. (Lars Widerberg, *Intercessors Network*, Storskiftesgatan 87, S-58334 Linköping, Sweden. E-mail: Intercessors.Network@Comhem.se or Intercessors.Network@Telia.com).

Wednesday 17 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Guam, Guatemala and Guinea. Ask for the establishment of houses of prayer.

Health focus: Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)

Every year an estimated 25,000 babies are born in South Africa with *Foetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)* — the highest reported incidence in the world. This disease is the result of alcohol abuse by women during pregnancy and is one of the main causes of severe mental disabilities and stunted physical growth in babies in South Africa. *FAS* is found in all races and across all socio-economic groups. Rural areas in the Western Cape and towns in the Northern Cape are among the hardest hit by this disease. De Aar has the highest recorded incidence of *FAS* with 122 babies for every 1000 live births. (Website: <http://health.iafrica.com/healthnews/1911840.htm>). Lift up this issue in prayer. Ask that this irreversible disability, which is one of our major health problems, will be stopped and permanently removed from our country's health risk issues.

Focus on Bible translation: Faith Comes by Hearing

Research shows there are more than 6,800 languages spoken around the world, and half of the world's population is illiterate. *Faith Comes by Hearing* is working to bring the Word of God to every nation, tribe and tongue and is coming closer to its goal of recording the New Testament in 2,000 languages and implementing two million Bible-listening groups by the year 2016. Give thanks for the 439 Audio Scripture recordings that are now available in 371 languages. (Website: www.FaithComesByHearing.com or e-mail: info@fcbhmail.org). Give thanks to the Lord for this progress in the translation of the Bible. Continue to pray for favour to complete these projects, even ahead of time so that many can hear about Christ and follow Him.

Thursday 18 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Guinea-Bissau, Guyana and Haiti. Ask for the salvation of leaders from all spheres of life.

Face life through God's eyes: How can I respond in a Christ-like way when I am being treated unjustly?

There is no easy answer to this question other than to look at Jesus as example. He suffered unjustly to pay the penalty for your sins so you may have complete forgiveness of your sins. Therefore, now that you have become a true Christian, you rely on Christ (who lives in you) to enable you to endure your unjust suffering, but even more so, to forgive those who mistreat you. Be clear about this point; every genuine Christian is "called" to suffer, but with that suffering comes a blessing from **1 Pet.2:19-23**: *It is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God... To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.*"

Practical: Once again, take time to speak to God about this issue in particular: How to respond when treated unjustly. Ask Him to reveal to you the deeper meaning of **1 Pet.2:19-23**, and how it applies specifically to your own

life. Also ask Him how you can live it practically in your own life, and how not to take offence at insults or unjust treatment.

Prayer: Father God, I confess that I do not always know how to respond to insults or unjust treatment other than taking offence. Please help me from now on to respond to such treatment in a way that will honour You and be a testimony of Your presence in my life.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Human trafficking

Pray about all forms of human trafficking, prostitution, pornography and sexual immorality during the *Soccer World Cup*. Ask for the Holy Spirit to convict people involved in these acts of sin and unrighteousness, that they will realise that they are destroying themselves and others and that they will seek to make their lives right with God. Especially pray for prostitutes desperately in need of money, that God will help them to turn their lives around and make a new start.

Friday 19 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Honduras, Hong Kong and Hungary. Ask for influential leaders to turn to Jesus.

Health focus: SA team finds heart disease gene

After 30 years, International and SA researchers have now identified the defective gene that causes a type of hereditary heart disease known as *Progressive Familial Heart Block (PFHB) type I*. It affects the electrical system of the heart, as opposed to diseases that affect the organ's blood vessels. The discovery is a breakthrough for South African medical science as it gives hope to sufferers, who can now get advance warning of their condition and seek the necessary treatment. (Website: <http://medical.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/328/39943.html>). Give thanks to God for answering prayers for medical breakthroughs like these. Continue to pray for the research to be completed effectively and be made available soon.

City-wide prayer focus: Day of prayer for the youth and Soccer World Cup

It is now 10 years since the first *Day of prayer and repentance* took place in the *Newlands Rugby stadium* in Cape Town. Pray for the final arrangements and for travelling mercies as people come for the prayer meeting. Will you not encourage others to also gather in prayer for God to pour out His Spirit upon our nation. (Contact: Antinia de Waal at tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 021 856 1174 and e-mail: cape@gdop-sa.com).

Saturday 20 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: Why should I get rid of unwillingness to forgive?

When we refuse to forgive, our unwillingness to forgive keeps us emotionally stuck between both the offence and the offender. A continual refusal to forgive digs a deeper hole in which you can easily hide your hardened heart. Blaming others is a favourite tactic to justify unwillingness to forgive. When we tarry to forgive, oddly enough, we become like our offender (but are blind to it). Not forgiving our offender is an offence to God and thereby we become an offender to God ourselves! *He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy (Prov.28:13)*.

Practical: Today, consider whether you are blaming others. Do you sometimes feel frustration and anger towards an offender? Consider how these feelings influence your happiness, and ask God to help you reach a point where you just want to forgive and let go of all bitterness and unforgiveness.

Prayer: Father God, I confess that I tarry to forgive, because I just do not want to let go of certain offences that are still so clear in my mind. Today I ask that You will work in my heart and mind, showing me Your goodness towards me. I am taking a step of faith by confessing that I no longer want to harbour offences in my heart or tarry to forgive my offenders.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Set a watch

Ask for the Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of Christians to increase time spent in prayer prior to and during the *Soccer World Cup*. Pray for the Spirit of prayer and supplication to be poured out so that people from every nation, even those visiting, will find themselves calling upon the Name of the Lord to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh, not only in South Africa, but even on family members back home.

Sunday 21 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What does a forgiving heart look like?

Peaceful, seeking to resolve all difficulties, hurts or divisions and an inward desire for the offender to set things right with God and be blessed by Him. When we are forgiving towards our offenders, it lowers their guard and prepares the way for reconciliation. Scripture is clear from **James 3:18**: *Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.*

Practical: Write down all instances you can remember where you made a special effort to resolve something that was not right between you and another person. Also write down how and what happened that your relationship/friendship with those people were restored. Take time today to give thanks to God for actively working in your life, to His glory.

Prayer: Father God, I give thanks to Your Name for every time You worked in my heart and mind to make peace with those who offended me. Thank you for completely restoring relationships/friendships with these people. Thank you for showing me these ways in which I did and can glorify your Name in my life.

Plan ahead for the *Global Day of Prayer* on 23 May 2010: Visit www.globaldayofprayer.com

National Prayer Focus: Negative lifestyle trends

The world today (and also South Africa) is displaying an increasing tendency towards a hedonistic lifestyle, which means we want *satisfaction here and now*. We don't want to wait, and consequences are not important – we are not interested in seeing beyond the moment.

1. *This means we have casual sex* – this is what the Afrikaans and English soaps teach us. Relationships are for our own satisfaction and not necessarily long-term. Sex before marriage is not wrong, it is a personal choice of a particular lifestyle and no one must judge us for that. *Pray that the eyes of the people will be opened to the truth and that they will make conclusive changes in their lives so that they can live holy lives.*
2. *Freedom of speech and choice* is important. We are free to say what we want. My opinion is just as important as that of anybody else. We choose what we wish to believe and how we want to believe it. And we make what we believe fit in with our views, so that what we believe suits us and justifies our lifestyle. As a result we are convinced that our lifestyle has no consequences and that there is no such thing as absolute truth. *Pray that people will once again start taking into consideration the feelings and needs of others and not live for themselves only. Ask that the absolute in God's Word and character will come up anew in hearts.*
3. We have a *consumer's attitude/mentality*. We use what we want, as much as we want and when we have finished with it, we throw it away. Irrespective of whether it is people and relationships or possessions. If a relationship doesn't work out, we get rid of the other person, if the job doesn't suit us, we find ourselves another one. Loyalty is optional. *Pray that people will recognise selfishness and egotism in their lives and start changing their lifestyle drastically. Ask for greater willingness in people to change themselves, to help others and to be good stewards of things and time.*

4. *There is increasing scepticism about God, and every yoke that forbids us to do certain things is discarded. We don't want anyone to 'judge' us because of our behaviour, and so we make ourselves a lifestyle where God is not needed, where there is no room for God. In this way many people become moral atheists: I am an atheist because it suits my lifestyle, but when I need God, He must be there for me. Pray that people will become aware of areas in their lives where they shut God out, yet at the same time blame Him that He is uninvolved. Ask that a need to live holy and honest lives will be reawakened in hearts.*
5. *There are so many questions: So many people say they don't believe in God or in the punishment of sin or that anything is sinful. Now the question is: What then do we believe? Is what we believe enough to live on, does it satisfy us? Is what I do really without consequences or is there a place where I will be held accountable for what I have done? Is there something like a guideline, a standard, independent truth that stands firm and unshakable above the opinions of others or our own? Is there a God that has a plan with our lives or can we just do with our lives as we please? Is there really a heaven and hell? Pray that people will ask themselves these questions more and more often and that God will accompany each one through His Holy Spirit, so that they will get to the truth amidst a world full of answers that don't work.*
6. *As Christians we say: There is a God, there is a place where we will have to account for what we have done. Each of us has the right to choose, but our choices do have consequences. There is something like truth that is independent of our own views. Christians say there is only one path and all the other paths are the wrong ones. The Bible is the only place/source where we can learn what is right and what is wrong. We believe that there is only one truth and just one true God (but many idols). We believe that Jesus is the only Saviour. We believe that there is a heaven and that hell is real. Pray that God will touch people's hearts afresh to give their lives to Him, to trust Him, to trust His guidance, especially when they ask questions that are difficult to answer.*
7. *In this sense Christianity is an intolerant religion; we are left no room to choose what we feel is true, no menu-lifestyle and way of thinking where we can pick and choose and decide what we will enjoy and what suits us. There is no room in a Christian's life for gambling (Lotto and all its variants), casual sex and immorality, prostitution and homosexuality, an 'anything goes' attitude, a life without consequences. There is no room for racial hatred, bribery or any form of unethical conduct and exploitation of other people. There is no room for condemnation, an unwillingness to love and forgive. Pray for the fear of God to return to the hearts of people, especially Christians. That they will take a good look at their own lives again, confess where they are in the wrong and restore their personal relationship with God and also other individuals, as the Holy Spirit leads them.*

Monday 22 March 2010

Salvation focus: Gay and lesbian people

Since same sex marriages were legalised in South Africa, many couples who got married are already divorced. Pray for gay and lesbian people, to find Jesus as the solution to their struggle and deep need for being loved and accepted. Pray for their salvation and God's love to strengthen and deliver them from their inner battle.

City-wide prayer focus: Day of prayer for the youth and Soccer World Cup

This year it is 10 years since the first *Day of prayer and repentance* took place in the *Newlands Rugby stadium* in Cape Town. Give thanks to the Lord for His faithfulness in building His house of prayer in all the nations of the earth the past 10 years. Stand united in prayer (from 13h00-16h00 today) with those who will go to the new *Cape Town Stadium*. Cry out to our God for our nation and the nations that will soon be visiting SA, that above all, everyone may have an opportunity to hear about and find Christ. (Contact: Antinia de Waal at tel.: 021 856 3130 or fax: 021 856 1174 and e-mail: cape@gdop-sa.com).

Stewardship focus: World Water Day 2010

Every year, 1,500 cubic kilometres of wastewater are produced globally. While waste and wastewater can be reused productively for energy and irrigation, it usually is not. The overall goal of the *World Water Day* today is to raise the profile of water quality so that water quality considerations are made alongside those of water quantity. (Website: <http://www.worldwaterday.org/page/2536>). Part of being stewards of the environment would include stewarding resources like water wisely. Pray that Believers in governments worldwide will take up this responsibility and trust God for breakthrough solutions to do so effectively.

Tuesday 23 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Iceland, India and Indonesia. Ask for a hunger and thirst to study, pray and proclaim God's Word.

Face life through God's eyes: What does an unforgiving heart look like?

Judgmental, continuously focusing on past wrongs the offender committed. Condemnation (being intolerant of any present mistakes of the offender), goes hand in hand with being judgmental. **Luke 6:37** is clear: *Do not judge... do not condemn... forgive, and you will be forgiven.* (To be judgmental, means that you condemn others, being a hypocrite, looking down on others. However, when a Christian brings the Gospel and warns people regarding sin, it is not being judgmental – it is to proclaim the standards in Scripture, showing clearly what is right and wrong, trusting the Holy Spirit to convict people of sin).

Practical: Search your heart for any judgmental attitude towards your offenders. Are you intolerant of them, especially when in their presence? Be brave, write down these things so that you know you are dealing with each one, clearing your conscience to be in right standing with God.

Prayer: Father God, I confess that judgment and condemnation definitely form part of my general attitude toward others in life. Please forgive me for such self-righteousness and for putting others down. Today I ask that You will help me turn around my life; show me every time I put down others in any way, especially in their presence.

Focus on India: Sherpa people

The Sherpa are warm, friendly, kind and generous. Their response to the gospel however has been very slow. Praise God for a small number of Believers in this people group. Ask God to strengthen, encourage and protect them. Small portions of the Bible are available to them in their language. Pray for more Scripture to be translated into this language, and that the Holy Spirit will prepare more Sherpa to receive new life in Christ. (*Wycliffe Prayer Focus* Bulletin, e-mail: Personnel_Southafrica@wycliffe.org).

Wednesday 24 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Iran, Iraq, Ireland and Israel. Ask for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Focus on prisons: Kairos Prison Ministry

Kairos Prison Ministry started in SA ten years ago in Pollsmoor Prison under the guidance of volunteers from *Kairos International* in America. Today, some of these original volunteers are still active in the ministry, alongside approximately 550 unpaid Christian volunteers from all races and denominations in South Africa. Give thanks to the Lord for not only changing the lives of those inside the prison walls, but also for changing the lives of those that extend His love and grace to the incarcerated and their families. Pray for this and other ministries working in our prisons to have favour to share the gospel with prisoners. (*Kairos Prison Ministry*. Tel.: 083 308 9573. Website: www.kairosministry.co.za or e-mail: andrepot@yebo.co.za).

Missions focus: *OM Ships International*

Prayer plays a central role in *OM Ships International* and is the foundation for everything the crew are involved in. Unite with them in asking God to move in five key areas: (1) Pray for sufficient crew to serve on board the ships, particularly enough qualified deck and engineering officers to bring the ships from port to port. (2) Ask for visitors to the ships to experience God's love when they step on board. (3) Pray for doors to be opened for the crew to serve people in many different countries. (4) Pray for God's provision in the areas of finance. (5) Pray for good relations with the local church. Their support and partnership is vital to follow-up contacts the crew make. (*OM Ships International*. Website: <http://www.omships.org/> or e-mail: info@omships.org).

Thursday 25 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan and Kazakhstan. Ask for an increase of night-and-day prayer in every village, town and city.

Face life through God's eyes: What does an unforgiving heart look like?

Merciless, rehearsing the reasons why the offender does not deserve to have mercy. Contempt (looking down on the offender without mercy), goes hand in hand with being merciless. **James 2:13** is clear: *Judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!*

Practical: Search your heart for any occurrences throughout the day when you find yourself looking down on others, or making up in your mind the reasons why they deserve to be punished. Make a habit of writing down things God shows you, so you may deal with each one in prayer when sitting at His feet.

Prayer: Father God, I confess that I am merciless and show contempt towards those around me, even for small insignificant things they do every day. I want to turn from this wickedness in my heart. Please show me clearly when I exalt myself above others in my daily life.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Stand your watch

Ask for Believers everywhere to go to prayer watches close to them and ask them to pray for the lost during this time. Ask for many new prayer chains to start, running night and day. Also pray for prayer rooms to be opened and Believers to start prayer meetings everywhere; at churches, homes, shopping centres, police stations, on trains, even in aeroplanes etc.

Friday 26 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait and Kyrgyzstan. Ask for people to understand God's love and choose to follow Him.

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 an 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.

Saturday 27 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What does an unforgiving heart look like?

Resentful, it does not want the offender to accomplish any successes. Envy (to desire the accomplishments of the offender for themselves), goes hand in hand with being resentful. **Job 5:2** is clear: *Resentment kills a fool, and envy slays the simple.*

Practical: Ask God to show you through the course of today any resentment towards others, even just hidden in your heart. Are you glad for others when they achieve success or have accomplishments you don't? If not, this might be one indication that you harbour envy in your heart. Write it down and take it to the Lord in prayer.

Prayer: Father God, I confess that there is often resentment and envy in my heart towards other people, much more than I expected! Please forgive my ignorance of these obvious sins in my life. I repent today and choose to listen to Your voice showing me these things in my life. Help me to turn from all resentment and envy in my life!

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Maintain your watch

Ask that Believers will sign-up to pray in prayer watches to pray for the different matches as they are played, also covering all the different outreach and evangelistic efforts in prayer for spiritual breakthrough in the hearts and lives of people.

Testimony from Somalia

On September 28th 2009, an Islamic extremist shot and killed Mariam Muhina Hussein, an underground church leader in Somalia, after discovering six Bibles in her possession, according to *Compass Direct News*. The day before the shooting, a leader of the Islamic extremist group al Shabaab reportedly sent his wife to visit Hussein's home in Marerey village. She pretended she was interested in learning about Christianity. During the visit, Hussein read passages from the Bible and told the woman that she could visit regularly to discuss God's Word. The following day, the al Shabaab leader went to Hussein's house with several other men and requested a Bible. When Hussein gave one to him, he revealed that he was looking for "Christians who have defiled the Islamic religion" and ordered her to show him the other Bibles that she owned. When she handed them over, he shot her three times, killing her instantly. *Praise God for the faithfulness of this woman. Pray that God will grant persecuted Christians encouragement and strength as they face trials for their Christian witness. Also pray that God will draw persecutors into fellowship with Him, giving them the opportunity to repent and be saved.* (Website: <http://www.compassdirect.org/>).

Sunday 28 March 2010

Face life through God's eyes: What does a forgiving heart look like?

Kind, looking for and acting in practical ways to express kind deeds and to meet the needs of others, especially those who offend you, by acting in a spirit contrary to theirs. Scripture is clear from **2 Pet.1:7-8**: ... *(add) to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Practical: Ask the Lord to show you where deeds of kindness to other people have turned their hearts towards you to His glory. Write this down in remembrance of God's Spirit working in and through you. Give thanks to Him for helping you show others His love by meeting some of their practical and physical needs, whether big or small.

Prayer: Father God, thank you for prompting me so many times to show someone a deed of kindness, especially people I did not like or whom I know did not really like me. Thank you for turning their hearts toward me and for helping me to glorify Your Name by showing them kindness.

Monday 29 March 2010

Salvation focus: Gang leaders and members

Lift up in prayer young people involved in gangsterism in our country. Ask that God will open their eyes to see His love, compassion and will for their lives. Pray that many will give their lives over to Christ and become a living, persevering testimony of God's power in their lives.

Morality focus: Moviegoers favour clean movies

The Family Guide to Movies and Entertainment announced that a new three-year study of the top 25 movies released in 2006-2008, earning the most money overseas, shows that international moviegoers prefer movies with strong or very strong Christian, moral and/or redemptive content and values. This study matches the annual study of the top 25 movies at the Box Office in America and Canada and the top home video sales annually. *The Movieguide®* study found that in 2006-2008, 20 of the Top 25 movies overseas, or 80%, contained strong or very strong Christian, moral, redemptive, and even Biblical content. (*Breaking Christian News*, 310 2nd Ave SE, Albany, Oregon 97321. Tel.: 541 928 2642. E-mail: editor@breakingchristiannews.com). Give thanks to the Lord for these findings. Pray that movie producers will change their approach, and that breakthroughs for the gospel will be seen in the movie world.

Tuesday 30 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Laos, Latvia, Lebanon and Lesotho. Ask for Jesus to reveal Himself to people in visions and dreams.

Face life through God's eyes: What does a forgiving heart look like?

Faithful in prayer for those who have caused you pain to also have changed lives. Not wanting them to perish, but rather come to a better understanding of God's love for them as a person. Scripture is clear from **Luke 6:27**: *But I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you.*

Practical: Ask the Lord to show you how to pray for people whom you have forgiven. Take time to listen to His voice concerning each one. Ask Him to remind you to regularly pray for each person so that their lives may grow closer to Jesus as their Saviour.

Prayer: Father God, I lift up in prayer all those who offend me or have offended me. Please show me how I can effectively pray Your will and purpose into the lives of these people. Also help me to be more compassionate towards them.

Focus on Israel: Celebrating the traditional Passover

Jewish people commemorate Passover from 31 March - 6 April 2010. During this time they contemplate their deliverance from Egypt. They celebrate the Passover, the feast of unleavened bread and the feast of the First Fruits. Let us pray also at this time that Jewish people will come to the understanding of what Jesus Christ did at Calvary and of His resurrection as the first fruit from the dead. Ask that their hearts will be open and receptive to the gospel message across the world. (*Christian Friends of Israel*. Tel.: 012 361 1437. Website: <http://www.cfijerusalem.org/> or e-mail: allwiese@lantic.net). Also ask that all citizens from other nations in Israel will come to know Jesus in this way.

Wednesday 31 March 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein and Lithuania. Ask for people to hear, listen and obey God's voice.

Focus on prayer: Jericho Walls International Prayer Network

We give thanks to the Lord for sustaining and building the work of prayer in the Church and nations of the world over the past 10 years. Many videos motivating people to pray, have been sent across continents and nations, and have had a special impact on the hearts and minds of people. God has touched and begun to change many communities. We give thanks for His provision, for answering our prayers, for sending the right people with the right skills needed at the right time. Continue to pray that God will touch people with His Holy Spirit and bring revival to the Church worldwide. (*Jericho Walls International Prayer Network*. Tel.: 012 365 3213 or fax: 012 365 3214. Website: www.jwipn.com or e-mail: info@jwipn.com).

Thursday 1 April 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Luxembourg, Macau, Macedonia and Madagascar. Ask for a hunger and thirst to study, pray and proclaim God's Word.

Face life in and through God: How do I forgive myself?

The hardest thing for most of us to do is to forgive ourselves. Once you have done something really wrong, there is no way you can undo or change it. Many people become very angry at themselves and find it impossible to forgive themselves for their mistakes.

Practical: The only way to deal with forgiving yourself is to ask God how He sees you in the midst of this issue. After asking God's forgiveness, it is important to separate the sin/thing you did wrong from yourself, a child of God. Paul writes about this mysterious ongoing fight in our inner man in **Romans 7:19-22**: *I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do ... As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.*

Prayer: Father God, I realise that You have forgiven me for this thing I have done. I am struggling to forgive myself. Please help me see myself through Your eyes. In Your Name and with Your help, I choose to forgive myself. I now take **1 Joh.1:9** for myself and believe that God has cleansed me from all unrighteousness.

Prayer focus on Moria gatherings at Polokwane

Literally hundreds of thousands of people from the ZCC will gather at Moria for the Easter celebrations. Please pray against all kinds of misleading beliefs and that Jesus will be seen as the only Deliverer. Ask for many to have a clear understanding of God three-in-one, as He revealed Himself in the Bible; Father, Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Safety

Pray for visitors to South Africa to be safe wherever they may travel, that there will be no incidents of crime, mugging, hi-jacking, murder or accidents that may cost lives. Ask for the police and all security people to be able to handle all kinds of situations with great wisdom and justice; also to be safe themselves.

Friday 2 April 2010

GDOP focus: Lift up in prayer Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives and Mali. Ask for an increase in night-and-day prayer in every village, town and city.

Focus on Passover: Good Friday

Today is *Good Friday*. Please pray for God to touch the hearts and minds of millions of people in South Africa today and to give them a renewed realisation of the awesome gift of Life that they have received. Ask that many will have an understanding of God's grace. Pray that many eyes will be opened and that thousands will turn from darkness to light – and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place

among those who are sanctified by faith in Christ (**Acts 26:18**). Churches in black communities celebrate what they call 'Pasika' from today till Sunday. Please pray for a special touch of God on these gatherings.

Article: Redigging the wells of Revival: 3-12 April 2010

As we commemorate the 150th anniversary of the 1860 revival in South Africa, we encourage people to pray with renewed fervency for revival in our nation. From 3-12 April we invite all those towns and cities that experienced revival over the past 350 years in South Africa to arrange special initiatives to pray that God will show us mercy and again open the wells of revival in their city/town.


At *Jericho Walls* we have drawn up a list of 74 cities and towns that we could find that experienced revival over the past 150 years. There are certainly more, but these are the ones we know about right now. This list is available on request. Should you know of revivals in towns that are not listed, please let us know so we can update the list. You can also contact us if you want to know if there is already someone on our database from your city or town who has indicated that they wish to be involved in this initiative. Contact Anneke Hanekom at tel.: 012 365 3213 or fax: 012 365 3214 or e-mail: info@global24-7.org

What to do during these 10 days:

1. Find a group of people, if possible from different denominations, and plan to gather every day for ten days to pray for your city/town. Among other things, you can use the prayer pointers in the *Jericho Walls* prayer guide.
2. Give thanks to the Lord for His great deeds in the past and ask Him to repeat them in your community (**Isa.64:1-5; Ps.85:6**).
3. Read **Acts 2:17-21** and pray according to these verses, that God will again pour out His Spirit upon your city/town and open the former wells of revival.
4. Where possible, consider setting up a 24-7 prayer room or prayer wall (schedule), to pray for the whole ten days. Consider a central venue where all churches can come together to meet for prayer.
5. Revisit the different places in your city/town/community where you know previous revivals started. If you are uncertain, you may consider contacting *Jericho Walls* or do some research on the history of your community.
6. Take time to worship and praise God for His great deeds (**Num.21:17; Isa.12:3**).
7. Humble yourselves before Him. Ask His forgiveness for the evident sins of your town/city and the lack of devotion to the Lord. Pray that He will once again visit your community.

Saturday 3 April 2010

Day 1: Redigging the wells

 **Isaiah 12:2-3:** "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation." With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

◆ Do you still experience the joy you felt when you first met Jesus as your Saviour? Or have you become weary and complacent? Allow the Holy Spirit to search your heart. Confess any complacency or apathy in your own relationship with the Lord Jesus. Ask Him to fill your heart with joy again, in spite of difficult circumstances you


may find yourself in. Surrender yourself to Him with absolute confidence that He will again be your salvation. Pray for the Church to rejoice in the Lord again because He is our salvation.

Focus on the Soccer World Cup: Ticketing

Those who are not able to get tickets to watch matches, will be able to gather at official *FIFA* fan parks to see the matches broadcast on large screens. Please pray for godly order in these areas too. Cyber criminals see high profile sporting events as a 'prime opportunity' as people become increasingly likely to take risks and purchase tickets through unauthorised channels or believe the promises made in unsolicited e-mails. This may land fans with useless counterfeit tickets, and also lead to the theft of their credit card details and fund organised crime. Pray that such conduct will be exposed and for people to be cautious in disclosing their credit details.

Sunday 4 April 2010

Day 2: Redigging the wells

 **Proverbs 25:26:** *Like a muddied spring or a polluted fountain is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.*

◆ Many Believers become weary or are disillusioned when they do not see an answer to prayer. It is because sometimes we have preconceived ideas of how God should answer our prayers. If you have limited God in any way, confess it before Him. Surrender your thoughts and expectations to Him and ask Him to work in the way He wants to, when He wants to and in whatever way He wants to. Pray for the Church to be cleansed from all wickedness, to be refreshed, and for those who have become tired to rise up with strength and perseverance.

Face life in and through God: How do I forgive God?

One of the most difficult things in life is to admit you are angry with God. This happens very easily though. When calamity strikes in our lives and we find it difficult to understand why something like this happened to us, we tend to look for someone to blame. As God is the one we feel should protect and bless us, our first response may be to ask why He allowed something bad to happen. We ask questions like: Where was He when I was raped or abused, or when we were hi-jacked or robbed?

Practical: The only way is to sit down at His feet and ask Him to show you where He was in that situation, to reveal to you the truth in that very difficult situation, as He sees fit, that is troubling your mind. Next it is important to spend enough time with God until you find that you begin to hear His voice clearly on this matter. Satan wants so much for us to believe that God is not there for us, loving us. Speak to God about the issue you put before Him until you understand from His heart what He is saying to you. Even when you receive no answer, you have to make an intentional decision to just acquit God from anything you hold against Him. It is as simple as that. He is your best friend and you cannot live without Him; make sure things are right between the two of you.

Prayer: Father God, I thank you for revealing Your heart to me about this issue. Please help me clearly understand from Your Word, Your view about this situation. I repent of taking offence at You, thus harbouring in my heart unwillingness to forgive You. I choose to let go of my feeling of offence. I choose to no longer accuse you in my heart of things that Your Word clearly states You will never do. Please forgive me for this sin of accusation and unwillingness to forgive You. Fill my heart with Your joy and help me to trust You like a child, because You are my Father.

Focus on Passover Sunday

Most Christians in the Western world commemorate *Passover Sunday* today. The first Passover was held in Egypt by the Israelites. Because of their faith and obedience, God exempted them from His wrath and judgment when He passed over the land of Egypt to kill the firstborn of all families. God said: *and when I see the blood, I will pass over you* (**Exodus 12:13**). Now, 2000 years after Christ's birth, we know Jesus was killed as the final sacrifice for all the sins of all people. Pray that Christians will give thanks to God for giving Jesus Christ to die for us. Also ask

for the unsaved to embrace Jesus as the gift of Eternal Life. Today we thank and celebrate God for Jesus Christ as the Faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the dead, and the Ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen! (**Rev.1:5-6**).

Plan ahead for the *Global Day of Prayer* on 23 May 2010: Visit www.globaldayofprayer.com