

Jericho Walls prayer guide – ARTICLES

March, April, May 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

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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

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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.

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.

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.

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.*

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/>).

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.

Prayer Focus: Revival - 13 April – 12 May

Ps.69:32 ...*you who seek God, let your hearts revive.*

For the next 30 days, we will have a specific focus on revival in the Church worldwide. The prayer pointers focus on both your own relationship with God, and the relationship between God and the local congregation you are a member of. It is fine to pray for the greater Church, but when you pray, pray for people you know, to be revived.

1. Desire with all your heart for God to revive you again.
2. Allow your mind to become quiet before Him and open your heart for the Spirit of God to work in and through you.
3. Pause after each Scripture reference and prayer request and allow the Word to bring you into contact with God before you pray.
4. After your prayer, remain quiet before the Lord and wait for the Holy Spirit to speak or minister to your heart.

Women-2-pray: Time to pray for men

God has been doing something very special among the men in our country the past three years. Many husbands are surrendering their lives to God and are returning to their homes to take up their priestly role. This is challenging for us women since some of us have never really seen our men take up this godly position in our homes. How do we know it is for real? We need to plan some extra time to pray for them now, and what do we pray for them? The following are some guidelines that may help you pray for the men in our country and the man in your life. (Also see the article on Men-2-pray).

- Pray for every husband who has given his life over to God, to find friends and join a prayer group for men who will encourage him, be a mentor to him and teach him to grow as a disciple of the Lord Jesus.
- Pray for men to love their wives again as they love their own lives and bodies; to care for their wives, cherish them and love them as Christ loved the Church, and to give themselves to their wives and children as Jesus did for the Church.
- Ask that they will restore the family altar, sanctify and cleanse their wives with the washing of water by the Word, and encourage her to follow God's calling on her life.
- Also pray that men will reconsider the way they spend their time and money, especially those who are married, that they will share with their wives how they spend money, and budget together for monthly expenses (**Eph.5:26-30**).
- Pray that God will help men to separate themselves from the wider family, and be joined to their wives and children the way God intended (**Eph.5:31**).
- Pray that husbands will love their wives as they love themselves and not become bitter towards them about anything; that they will be able to forgive the wrongs of their wives and right their own wrongs with a humble heart. (**Eph.5:33**).
- Pray that especially fathers will not provoke their children, making life bitter for them, being negative and criticising their children all the time, but that they will rather discipline them in a godly way, and encourage them in things concerning their identity, gifts and talents (**Col.3:20-21**).
- Pray that husbands will live up to their priestly role and set an example to their children in the way they treat their wives as the weaker vessel, so their prayers may not be hindered (**1 Pet.3:7-8**).
- Pray for men to have the mind of Christ, to have compassion for one another, to love as brothers, to be tender-hearted, courteous, not repaying evil with evil or insult with insult, but on the contrary with blessing, knowing that they were called to this (**1 Pet.3:8-9**).
- Ask that men will love life God's way and restrain their tongues so that they do not speak evil or deceit, and that they refrain from taking bribes to obtain business deals or become involved in any unrighteous business dealings. (**1 Pet.3:10-11**).

Give thanks to the Lord for touching the hearts and lives of so many men in our country. Give thanks to Him for answering the prayers of many parents, wives and children over the years.

Prayer Story: God is opening the 'Window'

Since 1993 a 'new' form of prayer has emerged worldwide: prayer journeys. With the *Pray through the Window* initiative that was launched in 1993, approximately 21 million people prayed for the 65 countries situated within the *10/40 Window*. (These are countries situated between 10 and 40 degrees north latitude, from West Africa to Japan.) Approximately 90% of the world's unreached groups live here. This is where the largest non-Christian religions have their headquarters and also where 80% of the world's poorest people live. Prayer for these countries from all over the world took place during all 31 days in October 1993 and was repeated in 1995, 1997, 1999. To this day it is done every 2nd year during October.

During 1993, 248 prayer teams (more or less four teams per country) started going on prayer journeys to these 60+ countries. In 1995 there were many more teams. That year, 310 people from South Africa went on prayer journeys to countries in the *10/40 Window*. Since 1996 *Project Macedonia* started sending teams from South Africa to these countries, mostly countries in the Middle East and North Africa. Literally hundreds of teams. They are not the only group who sent teams, but a great number of teams were trained by them and sent out. Dozens of teams started visiting Morocco, Egypt and most countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

Already 88 teams have been sent to one specific country in the Middle East. Last year the organisers reached a point where they started thinking about not sending any more teams, because it seemed that no progress was being made in these countries. And then the breakthrough came. For some 'unexplainable' reason people just started coming forward and asking how to accept Jesus as their Saviour. Before, it sometimes took up to 20-30 conversations before someone got to the point of surrendering. But now people were starting to come of their own accord. A prayer watch has also been established in this country and the majority of Christian organisations in the country take part in it. Since the prayer watch started, the breakthroughs have started increasing.

Many people often wonder if it is worthwhile going on a prayer journey and praying in a specific country. Feedback from one who went on a prayer journey: I can only testify to what it meant to me personally. I have been on various prayer journeys and returned with new strength every time, and a much greater awareness of the needs of people in these countries. Out of the literally thousands of people from South Africa who have gone on such prayer journeys the past 15 years, literally 95% are positive about it and wish to go again. They come back strengthened and are acutely aware of the desperate need in the country they visited.

*Won't you consider being trained and equipped for a prayer journey and joining up with a team? We are trusting to send 100 such prayer teams to one specific country over the next two years. And more than 100 to other countries. If you are interested, contact *The Macedonian Project*, Private Bag X07, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040. Tel.: 012 348 6520/1 or fax: 012 348 6329. Website: <http://www.macedonian.org.za/contact.html> or e-mail: macsa@mweb.co.za*

ARTICLE: *Global Day of Prayer 2010*

The *Global Day of Prayer* has seen millions of Christians unite in a day of repentance and united prayer. On 23 May 2010, Believers from all 220 nations will once again unite all over the globe for a day of prayer. The echoes of desperate prayers for transformation will sound from stadiums, open fields, community centres and private homes. These prayers call on God who has the power to transform our world and to grace the nations with His glory. God is moving in His awesome power and He is challenging us to be part of this journey. It is a journey that is not about us, but about a world desperately in need of His glory and compassionate love. It is a call to respond to His invitation in **2 Chronicles 7:14** to humble ourselves, pray, seek His face and turn from our wicked ways. May He hear our prayers, forgive our sin and heal our land. Ten days of constant prayer leading up to Pentecost will precede the *Global Day of Prayer*. In South Africa this will form part of 40 days of night-and-day prayer for revival. The 10 days of night-and-day prayer will start on Thursday 13th May 2010. Let us join the world in these 10 days of prayer and also the *Global Day of Prayer*. May God grant us grace and mercy.

Teens-2-pray: Want your parents to change?

Each one of us has our own idea about the ideal parents and how we would want them to be. Ever thought of praying for your parents about these things? The Word of God is clear that God listens to prayer – He will also listen to you when you pray to Him. Do not doubt that. The following are some ideas on what you can pray for your parents. Share these with a friend and pray together and see how God answers your prayers.

1. **Face it...** They are not perfect. Whether they are at home a lot or not, divorced or separated, they are your parents. Accept it. Thank God for the privilege to have parents. Say you're sorry for the times you wished them 'away' or 'dead' because of something they did or did not do for you or someone else. Pray that God will open your eyes to see the good things they do that other parents are perhaps not doing. Ask the Lord to help you see their needs and give you wisdom on how to pray for them.
2. **Respond...** Pray that God will help them to understand your needs and pray that your parents will have the desire to spend time with you *and* be in a position to do it. Remember, when they reach out to you, it is God answering your prayer – do not give them the cold shoulder!
3. **Their work...** Economic circumstances have really changed their world and work circumstances. Pray for them to be able to handle all the difficult situations they have to face at work, and not to be so tired when they get home at night. Pray that they will have favour with their superiors, for good working conditions and proper payment. If they have their own business, ask that God will give them peace in their business, that their lives and work will be rooted in integrity and that they will not chase money to the extent that they do not care for their families and do not make time for family life, but enjoy the beautiful things in life.
4. **Their marriage...** Look carefully to see what your parents struggle with. Begin writing these things down and pray about them. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how to pray about the things that cause heartache and pain.
5. **Their responsibilities...** Submit to their authority and ask the Lord to help you accept them and their discipline. Ask the Lord that they will have wisdom on how to lead you and to help you to grow to maturity. Pray that they will take up their role as a father and a mother, that they will live godly lives and show compassion to the poor and needy.
6. **Their conduct toward you...** Pray that they will be patient with you and that God will help you to be patient with them also. Remember that they are also just human and will make many mistakes. Do not judge them, but love them. Ask the Father to give them the wisdom and revelation to understand your needs and desires, and that they will make time to help you and be available to you, and love you.

Children-2-pray: What can you do for Mom and Dad?

Sometimes you feel so lonely, and actually really in the way when things are going wrong at home or when Mommy and Daddy fight. Is it your fault? Can you perhaps do something to change things so that everything will get better? Sometimes you just want to show them you love them and help them with all the difficult things they have to do. There is something very powerful that you can do; you can ask your heavenly Father to help them. Your prayers can really change their lives; praying is one of the most important things you can do for them. Why don't you start praying for your parents with one of your trusted friends every school day during break for 5 minutes, or in the evening before dinner? Do not wait for bedtime, then you may be too tired to pray. Here are five things you can pray.

1. **Lonely...** When your parents fight it makes them feel really lonely, especially if they are still angry when they go to sleep. Every time you hear them fight, or if they are unhappy, go and find a place where you can spend a few minutes alone with God. Ask His help and pray that Jesus will give them peace and that they will understand how much Jesus loves them.
2. **Afraid...** In many homes money is a problem. Sometimes there is not enough money. Ask your Heavenly Father to help you as a family. Remember that Jesus taught us to pray: Our Father who is in heaven, give us our daily bread. Ask and you will see how God will provide for everything. And many times it will help Mom and Dad if you go to them and ask if you can pray with them that God will provide for all your needs.

3. **Angry with you...** Sometimes you do something that you realise afterwards was wrong. Pray that they will help you to do the right things and show you the right way. Pray and ask the Lord to help them to forgive you and make sure you say that you are sorry.
4. **Give a hand...** When your parents come home, see if there is something that you can help them with. Sometimes you can offer to make them a cup of coffee, do the dishes or wipe the table. Ask the Lord to show you small things that will make them proud of you and be a blessing to them. Reaching out to them like this will definitely change their heart and attitude towards you.
5. **Their relationship...** Pray for them to live in peace with one another. Also ask them to sometimes do something together at home as a family and pray that God will make them willing to do that. Tell them that you love them, and that you want to spend time with them. They do not always realise that you need them.

Missions Focus: Church planting

According to research and also missionaries in the field, church planting remains one of the most effective forms of evangelism and Church growth. The past 30 years were marked by a renewed focus on church planting. When we pray for the expansion of God's Kingdom, we especially pray for God to raise many new church planters. There are at least 20 million people in South Africa who distance themselves from the Church; animists, atheists, unbelievers etc. If we want to see these people in churches, at least 40,000 new churches, each with at least 500 members, are needed. No matter what we think or how we reason, truth is that many skilfully equipped church planters are needed urgently.

Are there present-day examples of successful church planting? Here are a few encouraging examples:

- ✚ In **South East Asia** a church planter started working in an area in 1993 where there were only three churches and 85 church members out of 7 million people. Only four years later there were 550 churches and 55,000 members.
- ✚ In one city in **China** 20,000 people accepted the faith in a four-year period (1993-1997) and 500 new congregations were planted.
- ✚ Another missionary reports from **Asia** that in 1998 he and his wife started 15 new church cell groups. Some time after that, they had to leave for 6 months. On their return they found 30 new church cell groups and he believes there could be at least two to three times more house church type groups and churches. Another missionary reported that it took him 30 years to plant four churches in a certain country. They saw 65 cell churches start in the past 9 months alone.
- ✚ In one specific area in **India**, with 90 million people basically unreached, there were, according to church leaders, only 28 churches after nearly a century of labour amongst them. Within nine years (1998 to 2007) there were 2,000 churches.
- ✚ In **India, the Philippines and Latin America** an accelerated increase in church planting is visible. In one area in India, a Christian worker came to a Christian organisation to ask for help in an area where 30 churches sprang up in a few months. The mission organisation, overwhelmed with requests for help, could only send help after two months. By that time the number of new churches had doubled to 62. This was in 2007. Since then church planting has accelerated in India.

The encouraging thing is that we see a *rapid, multiplicative increase* in the number of churches planted and they are *indigenous churches*, planted by the locals. Let us pray for God to raise up more church planters!!