

# But God

Friends

The following three months we normally focus more than usual on praying for the nations, especially the unreached. In this we are in unison with millions of other believers worldwide, who are doing exactly the same. Isn't it upsetting to know that 2,000 years after Jesus came as Saviour there are still more than 10,000 ethnic groups and other groupings of people who have not been reached by the gospel yet?

Over the next three months we are going to focus in particular on prayer for Muslims and Hindus, but also for the Persecuted Church.

We carry the message of salvation in our hearts, but our hearts are so slack in sharing it with others. May we focus during the following three months especially on the unreached? Let us never forget that it is part of the primary task of the church to reach the unreached.

## Don't fall back

We are on the other side of the soccer World Cup; we have weathered many strikes and racial tension. God has already helped us through so many difficult situations. Don't come to a standstill now. Too often we take one or two steps forward and then stop. The minute we stop halfway through the battle, the next step is usually a step backwards. I feel very strongly about it that we must not take a break from prayer now. We must pray through. We must not give up the territory now that we have gained!

This year there were many conferences and stadium gatherings and different drives that helped us move forward spiritually. It is not over yet; there's more to come. We must now take possession of the ground that we have won; we must establish the kingdom on it and we must develop it as a foothold for the following step and 'walls' must be erected. Retreating is not an option. Ostriches and tortoises and various other bird and animal species are not able to walk backwards at all. There is only one way for them and that is forward. Let it be the same for us as Christians.

## Moving men through God alone

J. Oswald Sanders, once General Director of *Overseas Missionary Fellowship* once said: *I believe it is possible to move men through God alone.* The only problem is putting it into practice! We all agree with this wonderful statement, till the problems arise: A lack of funds and personnel, disunity, tension between family members, few conversions, political troubles, violence, crime, etc.

It is not our human nature to rely on God alone, to trust Him alone. Everything in us resists and rebels against it. Often we will say, "Isn't there at least *something* that I can do? I cannot just sit here and do nothing!" How difficult it is to trust God and Him alone to be our first and last Resource and Help!

How much we trust our own wisdom and abilities! How often we put our trust in our own experience, expertise and strength, our finances and resources! Too often we trust in self and try to help God – replacing faith with flesh, replacing almighty power with human power and godly wisdom with human wisdom.

Friends, when will we learn to trust the promises of God, the blood and the cross, the Name of Jesus and the power available at His throne of grace? When shall we trust in them and in Him more than our own contributions and our abilities?

We need to trust God alone to change people. When you and I begin to practise it, we always see fruit that we will only be able to explain in the language of **Ephesians 3:20** - we will see God doing things over and above and beyond what we can think or imagine. We will see the humanly impossible. Men *can* be moved. Even the strongest, the most stubborn and violent, the most godless, proud and selfish. People can be changed, but it is

only God that is able to do that. No human being can change another person. How much time had already been wasted trying to change others, with no success.

The secret is touching God to touch man. George Müller said that in our natural state we dislike dealing with God alone. As Christians we also shrink from standing with God alone. O, how we trust our own wisdom, power and abilities! How we doubt whether God can do it without our help! Jesus said: *Speak to the mountain.* We say: *Let us help God try to dig away the mountain.*

When we face problems and difficulties, refusing to rely on self and others, but trusting God to intervene, to help, to solve the problem, to provide, then men can be moved. Ask Him. Men can be moved: through God. He can do it alone and by Himself. He knows how. As you pray, God will move them.

Wise is the man that knows when to pray and leave the result to God alone and to know when and how to act. There is a time to take a bucket of water to extinguish a fire, but then there are circumstances in which our help and our efforts will not make a difference, other than to hinder the work.

Eph.3:20

Bennie Mostert

Managing Director: *Jericho Walls International Prayer Network*

## **What, where and when: National**

### **7-8 September 2010: National Prayer Networks Summit**

The annual prayer summit for leaders of different Christian Networks to prayerfully seek God's will for South Africa. Last year the week of prayer on crime and violence in November followed as a result. This is an opportunity to gather information, to get equipped and to network with the wider prayer movement in South Africa. **Place:** Dutch Reformed Church Moreletapark, Woodlands, Pretoria. Contact Anneke Hanekom at *Jericho Walls International Prayer Network*. Tel.: 012 365 3213 or e-mail: [info@global24-7.org](mailto:info@global24-7.org)

### **24 - 27 September 2010: National Christian Teachers' Convention**

**Theme: Being a Christ-centered leader and teacher.** This Convention is for Christian Educators and school principals from all types of schools and all communities. The aim is to equip, mobilise, network and inspire Christians in Education to fulfil their God-given task, impacting the next generation for God's Kingdom. **Place:** Oranje Girls' Primary School, Bloemfontein. Hosted by *Foundation for Cross-cultural Education*. Website: [www.fce.org.za](http://www.fce.org.za) Tel.: 023 2310208 or email: [bloeminfo@fce.org.za](mailto:bloeminfo@fce.org.za)

### **27 September – 1 October 2010: 9th Watchman's School of Prayer**

The past ten years have shown an exponential growth in the 24/7 prayer movement around the world. The purpose of this school is to train individuals who want to start or have already started establishing a 24/7 house of prayer, to build cross-cultural relationships and to learn from each other. During this full-time school of five days, you will be invited into a deeper personal walk with God and among other things also learn to pray Scripture. Time will be spent in worship and seeking His face, while practical sessions will focus on equipping participants with regards to 24/7 prayer. This will include topics such as the character & work of the Holy Spirit, setting up a creative prayer room, how to mobilise people to pray, how to reach out into your community with prayer, and how to sustain continuous prayer. We can accommodate only 150 people and registration is R980 per person (including all meals and accommodation for the whole week). We were fully booked last year, so please register by paying your deposit of R500 as soon as possible to reserve your place. Contact Lizette van Rooyen at tel.: 021 919 7988 or fax: 021 919 3954, website: [www.jwipn.com](http://www.jwipn.com) or e-mail: [cape@jwipn.com](mailto:cape@jwipn.com)

### **30 October 2010: Reformation and Revival Conference, Bellville**

*The Reformation and Revival Conference* promotes renewed vision and revitalised devotion for our personal lives, our families, our churches, our nation and the world, resulting in us coming back to God, rediscovering the Biblical agenda, rebuilding the moral walls of our society and resolutely working for Reformation and

praying for Revival. Contact: Taryn Hodgson, *Africa Christian Action*. Tel.: 021 689 4480. Websites: [www.christianaction.org.za](http://www.christianaction.org.za) or [www.ReformationSA.org](http://www.ReformationSA.org) or e-mail: [info@christianaction.org.za](mailto:info@christianaction.org.za)

## What's online

**Website:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_current\\_heads\\_of\\_state\\_and\\_government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_current_heads_of_state_and_government)

Do you want to pray for leaders of countries in your prayer room or at your church? Visit this website for updated information you can use in your prayer room.

**Website:** <http://www.settingcaptivesfree.com/>

*Setting Captives Free* is a non-denominational ministry which teaches the Biblical principles of freedom in Jesus Christ from habitual sins. They offer courses for education and accountability in fighting addictions.

**Website: Information on Islam and Muslims**

<http://www.answering-islam.org> / <http://www.morethandreams.tv> / <http://www.isaalmasih.net> /

<http://www.kalimatullah.com> / <http://www.barnabasfund.org> (Persecuted believers in Muslim context)

## Breakthrough

### 1 Million Haitians pray: 3,000 saved!

Out of the death and suffering caused by January's earthquake, a revival of repentance and healing is arising. On February 12, three days of prayer and fasting for the country were called. President Rene Garcia Prevel urged his fellow citizens to pray and one million gathered to answer his call. Give thanks for 3,000 reported conversions at this event (including 101 voodoo priests). Watch this awesome 4-minute video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30rWm84z-zg>

## Quotes

The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men ... Men of prayer. - E. M. Bounds

God has no greater controversy with His people today than this, that with boundless promises to believing prayer, there are so few who actually give themselves unto intercession. - A. T. Pierson

Wherever the Church is aroused and the world's wickedness arrested, somebody has been praying. - A. T. Pierson

Prayer is not a convenient device for imposing our will upon God, or bending His will to ours, but the prescribed way of subordinating our will to His. - John R. W. Stott

Prayer is a weapon, a mighty weapon in a terrible conflict. Our prayers are to be a continual, conscious, earnest effort of battle; the battle against whatever is not God's will. - P. T. Forsyth

The Word of God represents all the possibilities of God as at the disposal of true prayer. - A. T. Pierson

What a man is on his knees before God in secret, that will he be before men: that much and no more. - Fred Mitchell

Do not have your concert first, and then tune your instrument afterwards. Begin the day with the Word of God and prayer, and get first of all into harmony with Him. - James Hudson Taylor

It is a solemn thing to find oneself drawn out in prayer which knows no relief till the soul it is burdened with is born. It is no less solemn afterwards, until Christ is formed in them. - Amy Carmichael

I would rather train twenty men to pray, than a thousand to preach; - a minister's highest mission ought to be to teach his people to pray. - H. McGregor

## Monthly prayer focuses: September-December 2010

The following prayer focuses are to encourage those involved in a 24/7 house of prayer to focus on the same things at the same time in prayer. These 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](http://www.jwipn.com) Remember to subscribe to our weekly *Global Prayer Alert*, which covers current issues in prayer, by sending an e-mail to [cape@jwipn.com](mailto:cape@jwipn.com)

### August/September: Ramadan

Ramadan is the month of fasting for Muslims worldwide. Hundreds of millions of Muslims will fast during the day for the full month, but eat during the nights. In doing this, they fulfil one of the five 'pillars' of Islam. Over the past 18 years, millions of Christians united in a special prayer effort to pray for Muslims to experience the love of God as He reveals it in Jesus Christ. Over the past 20 years an astonishing number of Muslims were converted to Christianity, accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. There is a definite escalation in the number of Muslims coming to Christ. Very encouraging stories are told of what God is doing in Algeria, Indonesia, Egypt and the Arabian Peninsula to mention just a few. Let us join hands to pray for all Muslims.

### October: Hinduism in general and South Africa

During October we focus in prayer specifically on Hindus; what they believe, how it differs from what Christians believe and what is happening regarding Hinduism in South Africa. Hundreds of millions of people's lives worldwide are entangled and tied down by demonic forces, although they try to live good lives and become better and better people so that they can eventually go to 'heaven'. They believe that they come back to life again if their life was not lived well enough the first time. You can also add your own research to these prayer pointers to teach intercessors how to pray and minister more effectively to Hindus.

### November: Persecuted Church and Bible translation

Every year millions of Christians worldwide join in prayer for the Persecuted Church. Christians are persecuted in large parts of Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Asia and south-east Asia. Lately there is also a noticeable increase of persecution in 'open' countries like the USA, Canada, Western Europe and Latin America. It occurs in the form of ridicule and mocking, but also restrictions to freely evangelise and to live according to Biblical principles with regard to issues like abortion, same-sex marriages etc. We have a responsibility to pray for our fellow brothers and sisters that are persecuted. Every year, at least 160,000 Christians die for their faith. The other focus falls on Bible translation. Out of the more than 6,900 languages known to exist on earth, it is estimated that there are about 2,000 languages remaining without Scripture in any appropriate form. Having access to a Bible in your own language (whether in audio or print) undoubtedly remains the most effective way to grow spiritually. Let us pray for a significant progress in this respect within the next few years.

### December: Remembering what God has done in 2010

During December we will focus on the encouraging things God did this year in our country and the world. We spend much time in prayer, and it is like water to the soul and oil to the spirit to hear of prayers being answered.

## **Article: Ramadan 11 August – 9 September 2010**

This call to prayer for Muslims originally came during a meeting of several Christian leaders in the Middle East in 1992. Several believers strongly sensed God's desire to call as many Christians as possible to pray for the Muslim world. A prayer movement was planned to coincide with the Islamic month of Ramadan which follows a lunar calendar. (In 2010 this is from 11 August through 9 September.) It was intended that these *30 Days* of prayer should be during the month of Ramadan for at least two reasons: (1) As a means for Christians to identify themselves with Muslims during a fixed period of the year, and (2) to call upon God's sovereign intervention in the lives of Muslims during a time of the year when they are particularly religious. Please note that praying during the month of Ramadan does not mean that we conform ourselves to the Muslim practices of fasting and prayer. As believers in Jesus we disagree with Islamic ideas, theology and practice in several areas. However, the *30 Days* movement emphasises God's love for Muslims. We encourage all believers to cultivate a spirit of humility, love, respect and service toward Muslims. For more information please visit: *The 30-Days Prayer Network*. Website: <http://www.30-days.net>

## **Testimony from North Korea: Surprise search reveals an unexpected believer**

I was at home holding a Christian service with my family and did not hear a knocking sound at my door. As the knocking grew into loud banging, I realised someone was at the door and I quickly hid my Bible. After I opened the door, an intimidating village director and two followers walked into my house. The director demanded, "Why didn't you open the door quickly?" Then they started an extensive search around the house. I was extremely nervous that my Bible would be exposed, and as I thought of being captured, I started to pray. Then one of the men discovered my Bible ... but he quickly concealed it and told the other men, "There is nothing suspicious here. Let's move on to the next house." The next day, the man who took my Bible returned to my house ... alone. As soon as he came into the house he said, "You must have been surprised yesterday. I myself am a believer. Because of the current situation in our country, I cannot fellowship with other believers so I am keeping my faith to myself. God the Father guided me to your house yesterday and gave me this opportunity to meet a believer. I am so grateful for it. I have brought your Bible back. Please pray for me in the future and take extra caution when handling these goods." Website: <http://www.opendoorsusa.org/content/view/1018>

## **Testimony: Papa, Stop!**

A pastor of a local church told his assistant to go to an old section of the city (which is all Muslim) and preach the gospel. As soon as the first man he spoke to heard about Jesus, he got upset and told the evangelist to leave his house. The pastor later told the young man to go back to the same house and preach again. So he went back and started to talk to the man about Jesus. This time, the man started shouting and cursing, threatening to beat him if he ever came back. When the pastor heard what had happened, he told the evangelist to go back to the same house one more time. The evangelist began to refuse, saying that the man would certainly beat him, and maybe even kill him. But the pastor was stern and sent him out again. The evangelist obeyed and prayed along the way. The previous two times he had prayed for God to open the hearts of the people he'd meet; this time, he prayed for God to protect him. He was fearful for his life, but he went obediently.

When he got to the same house, he saw a five-year-old girl playing at the front gate. He began to tell her about God, about creation, and about Jesus Christ being the Saviour. After a while, the father discovered what was happening, and came out with a large stick to beat the evangelist. As he was about to strike, the girl shouted, "Papa, stop. Don't hit him. You must listen to what he says and start going to church every Sunday from now on." The father dropped the stick and started crying. His girl had been deaf and mute all her life, and Jesus Christ had miraculously healed her. The evangelist had not known her condition. He was simply being obedient to the command to preach the gospel to the lost, even if it meant that he would be beaten and possibly killed. The entire family of seven came to faith in Christ.

Website: <http://www.pioneers.org/Connect/Media/MediaArchive/tabid/149/PostID/107/Papa-Stop.aspx>

## Focus on how to pray for disaster-stricken areas of the world

If you have not experienced it yourself, it is pretty impossible to imagine what goes through the hearts and minds of people facing a sudden natural disaster. The number of natural disasters striking worldwide is more frequent than ever before. How do we pray about disasters and for those in need? The following are a few guidelines on how to pray for victims of a natural disaster whether it be a flood, fire, earthquake, mudslide, tsunami, etc. Disasters can be critical spiritual turning points for people. Some may turn to God while others might turn away from Him completely, and this is why we must pray earnestly about such situations.

## Men-2-pray: What does a spiritually responsible man look like?

It was C.S. Lewis who said, "There is no problem with the Statue of Liberty on the east coast of the USA, just as long as there is also a Statue of Responsibility on the west coast of the USA." Wouldn't we all like to share in all advantages that are available, enjoy freedom? It is so marvellous to receive, be attended to and enjoy good service. It is however not always such a marvellous thought that I also have the responsibility to live in such a way that, through my life and conduct, I will make the same things that I take for granted in my life possible for others.

It is interesting that there are many languages in the world that do not have a word for the concept of responsibility. Many cultures and several religions do not include the concept of responsibility, or it is very poorly developed.

This concept of responsibility is brought to every believer through the Scriptures: God also makes us His representatives on earth (**Gen.1:27-28; 2:15; Heb.2**) and gives us very specific duties. He commands us to do certain tasks and in doing those things, it implies that we must take responsibility.

Assuming responsibility always costs me. It will take my time. It will expect me to give my time, money and labour to make life better for others. It expects from me to make time to pray for others and not only for my own needs. It expects me to crucify myself and put the interests of others before mine.

How can one tell that a man is a Christian man who takes responsibility?

*Daniel* was a man who, from within his position in the government, took spiritual responsibility for the situation in his country and commanded authority and respect because he lived a life of integrity. In prayer he took responsibility for the future of the Jewish people, and a study of the book Daniel makes it clear that his prayers can be summarised in Jesus' words, "Let Your kingdom come". *Samuel* took responsibility for the people by saying that he would certainly not sin against the Lord by failing to pray for them (**1 Sam.12:23**). *Joshua* was a man who took responsibility for his family and made sure that his whole household served the Lord (**Josh.24:15**). *Boas* took responsibility for his family and social commitments by marrying Ruth, in this way obeying God's commands (**Ruth 3:13**).

- A man who takes responsibility is someone who provides for and takes care of his family and who regards them as a priority.
- God makes the man responsible for his wife: To love her, to take care of her, to provide guidance, to protect her, to see to it that she will develop her full potential and entire being.
- God makes the man responsible as a father to his children: To provide for them and protect them, to give them love and guidance, to teach and discipline them, to be available and raise his children so that they will be "godly offspring" (**Mal.2:15; Eph.6:4**).
- A man who takes responsibility is a man who takes his role as priest in the family seriously, by standing before God in prayer for them.
- A man who takes responsibility is a man who stands before God as priest to pray for the needs of the world around him: The poor, the wronged and victimised, the political situation in the country, the salvation of the unsaved.

- A man who takes responsibility is a man with integrity, who puts into practice the principles of the Scriptures towards the world and in the world. He is a man who does not tolerate injustice or act unjustly.
- A man who takes responsibility is a man who assumes responsibility for his own faults and sins. He confesses his sins and gives them up. He admits to his faults or mistakes and puts things right. He asks forgiveness for his wrongdoings and forgives when others have wronged him.
- A man who takes responsibility is a man who makes time to listen to the voice of God so that he may hear what God expects from him; and when he has heard, he goes out and does God's will.
- A man who takes responsibility is someone who speaks out and acts when the rights of the poor and of orphans and of those who have no say are denied.
- A man who takes responsibility is a man who is not impressed by human honour and recognition, who does not seek the approval and praise of the world; who sees himself less than the least of God's people and the greatest of all sinners (**Eph.3:8; 1 Tim.1:15-16**); for whom the praise of people, titles, position, learning and popularity do not weigh up to God's commandment to do the work of God in the power of God.

### **National focus: How to pray for a nation in a time of crisis**

*By Floyd McClung (article shortened)*

When a nation is in crisis we can either see what God sees for the nation, and align our hearts and thoughts with Him, or we can be overwhelmed by circumstances and allow offence and cynicism to take control of our heart. We can see how God sees and have faith, or we can see evil and tragedy without discernment – and lose faith. There is no in-between place for the heart of a Christian.

During this year South Africa faced a number of serious crises. There is great concern and fear that the racial divide in South Africa will be deepened. Everyone is aware that if the nation goes the direction Zimbabwe is going, South Africa will be plunged into economic ruin and racial conflict. There is fear that a civil war could take place.

How do we respond to such crises? Do we take sides and let the divide deepen in our own hearts? Does the Word of God have anything relevant to say about such a crisis?

The prophet Daniel in the Bible was a teenager when he was taken captive by the invading armies of Babylon. As a 16-year-old, Daniel was violently ripped from his family and all that was familiar to him. He was sent into exile, then forced to serve as a slave the most brutal and wicked man on the earth. Daniel was surrounded by demonic religions, pagan idolatry, palace intrigue, and still he kept faith in God – and he became a political leader of great influence.

There is no other book in the Bible that so uniquely reveals how the destinies of nations are impacted by the choices of ordinary people. We see one man pray, and a nation changes. We read how a young man is given the role of counsellor to kings. We are given insight into the throne room of God as the curtains of heaven are drawn back. We watch God judge His people, and overturn rulers and kingdoms to accomplish His secret plans.

There is just one prophetic message in the book of Daniel: Kingdoms come and kingdoms go, but God's kingdom is forever! The message of Daniel is intended to inspire people to discern what God is up to in a nation and then align their lives with what is in His heart, with His purpose. We learn from the book of Daniel that God reigns over the affairs of nations and it is He who allows and uses rulers for His purposes. We learn we are not to panic or lose heart – God is at work.

It is important for Christians today to understand the message of Daniel: If they do not, they will have only a human perspective tainted by political views and ethnic considerations. The book of Daniel is not in the Bible for us to speculate about the future, but to understand God's purposes for the present and also for the future.

Two of the most powerful passages in the book are Daniel's prayers in chapters two (verses 20-23) and nine (verses 3-19).

### **How to pray in a time of crisis:**

1. Focus on God's character. Acknowledge God's goodness, His greatness, and that He is ultimately in control (**Dan.2:20-22** and **9:4,7,9**). Refuse to be more impressed by sin or evil people or wicked rulers than with God's greatness and goodness. For a nation in a time of crisis, faith comes from being impressed with God, not circumstances.
2. Thank God for what He has shown you in the past as you prayed for your nation (**Dan.2:23, 9:3**). If you have not prayed for your nation with fasting, brokenness and humility, ask God's forgiveness.
3. Declare to God in faith that He raises up kings and presidents, and He removes kings and presidents (**Dan.2:21**). Daniel believed his own king in Jerusalem was removed, and the king of Babylon raised up, to judge the people of Israel. God brings governments down if they do not govern righteously. God uses wicked nations to bring judgment on His people.
4. Confess the sins of your nation in humility. Name the sins of the people specifically. Daniel identified with the sins of his people and confessed their sins as if it was his own. When he prayed he said, "We have sinned" (**Dan.9:3-6, 9, 13**).
5. Acknowledge that the judgment of the Lord on His people is deserved because of their sins (**Dan.9:11-15**).
6. Call upon the mercy and forgiveness of God. Daniel believed there was only one hope for the nation, and that was the mercy of God. He appealed to God to be merciful (**Dan.9:4,9,18-19**).
7. Pray for God's own sake, for His glory. As you pray, be more concerned for God than for the people or yourself. Too often our prayers are based on what we want or what we feel; and our prayers become self-centred (**Dan.9:18-19**).

### **Praying for people from other faiths**

During October we will focus in prayer on Hinduism. We ask the Lord to stir our hearts with passion to intercede for the salvation of Hindus, so none would perish (**2 Pet.3:9**). Some of the things Hindus believe may sound similar to Christianity, but they are definitely not the same. Christianity is the only religion where Someone came and gave His life so that all of us can have everlasting life as a FREE gift. Most religions require people to appease the gods and doing good works to obtain power, money, favour or salvation.

•**Pray** that God will give you the gift of intercession and compassion to specifically pray for Hindus in South Africa. Ask for the church to be awakened to the urgency of the times and seasons and that many would go into the harvest fields of the world, giving their lives for the sake of Christ; to reach those living in darkness.

### **DID YOU KNOW – Church in India**

The *Evangelical Church of India* has more than 3,400 churches and 13 Bible Schools in different parts of India and is moving forward with a goal of planting 10,000 churches and 100,000 house churches. Hundreds of people are turning to Christ every day! Bishop Dr M Ezra Sargunam, *Evangelical Church of India*, No 1, Second Street, Ormes Road, Kilpauk, Chennai, India 600010. E-mail: [ecindia@vsnl.com](mailto:ecindia@vsnl.com)

### **Women-2-pray: Helping your child to pray and to know God the Father**

Things that motivate children to pray are the things that touch their hearts—friends, family, teachers, even pets. We often smile at the innocence of their prayers, some of them quite un-Biblical, but we want them to pray from their hearts, with simplicity. As they learn to approach their heavenly Father with their daily concerns and needs, (and see Him answer), children learn to trust Him as the One who can fight their battles and those of the people they love. They learn to look to Him to provide for them, protect them, and to intervene in the world in real and powerful ways.

And it's not only personal problems. Children as young as three and four years old can also be sensitive to poverty, hunger, crime, and divorce. Memorised prayers have their place in launching our children's prayer lives too. The Lord's Prayer is a Biblical framework to help children consider topics of prayer they might not

otherwise think about. Children need to know the Name of the Lord is a strong tower; they can run into it and are safe (**Prov.18:10**). By praying these Scriptures, they can turn a feeling of powerlessness (very common for children) into confidence; that though they may be small, they can pray powerful, strong prayers in Jesus' Name and He will help them.

It is essential to introduce and lead your child to Christ as his/her personal Saviour. This will form the foundation of their prayer life. Keep on teaching and testifying to your child until he/she is ready to invite Christ into his/her life. (See 5 and 6 below)

Here are some additional practical ideas to help you to teach your child to pray, no matter how old (or how young) your children are:

1. **Invite your own children into your prayer time.** When they see you pouring out your heart honestly to God, it will encourage them to do the same. They will come to know that you know God personally, that He has saved you and washed you with His blood. What would a child learn from your prayer life?
2. **Create a time for family prayer.** It may be extended prayer at meals, at bedtime or a special weekly gathering. In this way, children learn to pray by listening, watching and participating.
3. **Allow children to be a part of corporate prayer times in your church.** Children need to see people of all ages in communication with God—and to hear about the answers to those prayers.
4. **Give kids visuals to help motivate their prayers** for issues outside of their own lives and relationships. Pictures (such as those from magazines or of children in need around the world) can show them real needs and evoke the kind of emotional response that is necessary to pray prayers from the heart. Ask for God's guidance that your child will not get frightened or discouraged because of the suffering of others.
5. **Help children get to know their heavenly Father.** This is the most crucial point of all. They need to realise that prayer is a relationship, not a religious activity, nor a 'magic formula'. It is important for children to understand that they are praying to their loving heavenly Father in the Name of Jesus Christ— teach them about the character of God, which will lead to an increase of their faith.
6. As soon as your child is ready, **lead him or her in a prayer to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.** It's after all the most important heartfelt prayer he or she will ever pray!

Shortened article: Cheryl Sacks, *Purpose Driven Life*, website: [www.purposedriven.com](http://www.purposedriven.com)

## **Basic Christianity: The sin that nobody speaks about: Jealousy**

This is the title of a book by RT Kendall. Much of the content of this article is taken from it. I strongly recommend that you read this excellent book. Jealousy is a hidden sin. We do not speak about it. Normally we recognise it in our hearts, but it is too terrible to acknowledge it. Jealousy can be found in business, politics, sport, amongst writers and pastors and movie stars, between siblings and in the media or the academic world.

Jealousy has many faces: Criticising others and speaking negatively of others. It makes me compare myself with others all the time. Jealousy seeks to be acknowledged and I'm always trying to prove myself. Jealousy finds it difficult to give honest compliments and finds it very hard to rejoice over the success of other people. It is always looking for acceptance and praise; always busy competing. Jealousy causes greed in me; anger and frustration, resentment, bitterness, unforgiveness, selfishness, pride and pomp. Jealousy makes that I always want more. Jealousy can see the faults of others very clearly, it is never vague. It is very personal. It is always aimed at someone.

How can I overcome jealousy in my life? Jealousy is often rooted in a sense of being insignificant, of not being good enough, in feelings of rejection or emotional hurt. All these things cause anger and greed in our hearts and manifest in different ways in our lives, one being jealousy. The way to deliverance from jealousy is to understand that it is more important to be loved than to love. We must understand that God loves us. He loves us unconditionally. He loves us in spite of who we are. He loves us so much that He was willing to give His Son to die for us. God's love makes us significant.

Having more and being better than someone else will not satisfy us. There will always be someone that will have more than what we have, that can do things we cannot do. This will bring new anger and greed that leads to more jealousy, and eventually end in more feelings of failure and pain. So the cycle will continue and cause significant damage to relationships.

To understand, know and experience God's unconditional love for you destroys all forms of rejection, heals emotional hurt, makes us significant and sets us free to be ourselves. We find our significance not in being better or having more than others, but in what has been done for us: Jesus died for us. Overcoming jealousy will set us free, it will help us to enjoy life and enjoy other people and have good friendships. It will set us free to live our calling and enjoy our relationship with God. R.T. Kendall gives a number of ways to overcome jealousy in our lives:

1. Admit it to yourself. Unless you admit it, the process of deliverance cannot begin.
2. Confess it to God as sin and ask forgiveness.
3. Practise total forgiveness. In most cases of jealousy there are people that have hurt us and that we need to forgive. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you any form of unforgiveness and the specific people you need to forgive. Pray and tell the Lord you forgive them. Where possible, go to the individuals that caused the pain or did something wrong and forgive them.
4. Make a choice to continually accept and seek God's praise above the acceptance and compliments of people.
5. Anticipate your reward at the judgment seat of Christ. Your real reward is not what you receive, or do not receive from people around you.
6. Accept your calling.
7. Accept your inheritance.
8. Let God vindicate you.
9. Set your sights on heaven and not the things on earth.
10. Be thankful.
11. Make a decision to praise God – just praise Him. Think about the many things you can thank Him for!

**Lastly:** Remember, you are precious and unique, as child of God, you have eternal life. Why would you envy others' things and lives? You already have what you really need and you belong to God, Who owns everything anyway.

### **Focus on the Persecuted Church**

During November we focus on praying for the Persecuted Church, especially on countries persecuting Christians. Every year *Open Doors* releases updates on countries persecuting Christians. *The World Watch List (WWL)* is a ranking of 50 countries where persecution of Christians for religious reasons is worst. First of all, the list covers persecution of Christians of all denominations in the entire country. The focus is on persecution for their faith, not persecution for political, economic, social, ethnic or accidental reasons. We will pray through some of them this month. Please consider downloading the complete list, put it up in your prayer room during November, and cry out to God on behalf of those who do not have a voice in their own countries. This year the top 10 countries persecuting Christians are: (1) North Korea, (2) Iran, (3) Saudi Arabia, (4) Somalia, (5) Maldives, (6) Afghanistan, (7) Yemen, (8) Mauritania, (9) Laos and (10) Uzbekistan.

### **Focus on Bible translation**

During November we will also focus on praying for Bible translation to accelerate across the world, especially for languages in closed countries. Martyrdom of Christians is as old as the church itself. Approximately 165,000 believers are annually martyred for their faith (Source: *World Christian Encyclopaedia*).

## Focus on the Church: How to pray for your pastor/minister

In **Romans 15:30-31** Paul writes: *'Now I beg you ... that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, that I may be delivered ... and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints.'* Every pastor/minister needs daily, continual prayer. Spiritual leaders are positioned on the cutting edge and live under much spiritual pressure and attacks from the Evil One. Through prayer we form a 'prayer shield' that surrounds our spiritual leaders.

The onslaught against pastors/ministers comes in many ways. The following are a few examples:

1. There are direct demonic attacks on spiritual leaders and their families from e.g. satanists, spiritualists, witch doctors etc.
2. There is the attack of a worldly attitude as well as social pressure to compromise, be popular and think and act according to the worldly system.
3. There is the attack of the old nature, the flesh resisting the Spirit (**Gal.5:13-18**).
4. There are direct temptations and sin which each spiritual worker must resist.
5. Spiritual workers in general experience a lot of stress, both emotionally and socially.
6. Every spiritual worker has a specific personality and comes from a specific background. Many struggle with their own emotional pain and hurt from their past. The enemy likes to target pain from the past that has not been dealt with in the spiritual worker's life.
7. Spiritual leaders are often tempted to seek honour for themselves or to compete with other leaders.

To pray for your pastor/minister literally means to stand in the gap for them, to take up spiritual responsibility for them in prayer, to be sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit. Do not pray your own will and ideas upon spiritual leaders. Let the Holy Spirit lead you. The following are some guidelines:

1. **Families:** Pray for their marriage, for peace, respect and enough time with one another. Pray for the children, that they will experience sufficient love and attention. Ask for wisdom for parents to raise their children. Specifically pray for a relationship of trust between father and son, and father and daughter. Ask that your pastor/minister will live in such a way that they do not provoke rebellion in their children.
2. **Their health:** *Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health (3 John1:2, NIV)*. The climate, attacks from the Evil One, working conditions, continuous criticism, little visible progress, misunderstandings etc. are all factors that may work together to cause pastors/ministers to suffer stress, depression, tiredness and hopelessness. *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid (John14:27)*. Pray for your pastor/minister to refuse to listen to or accept any accusations from the devil, or fellow believers who think evil in their hearts (**Zech.7:10b**). Pray for them to make friends who can also be spiritual partners, and for God to fill them with joy (**Neh.8:10; Deut.12:18**), despite circumstances.
3. **Their spiritual well-being.** Pray for them to be humble, live pure and holy lives and not to become critical or cynical. *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men (Phil.2:5-7)*. Pray specifically that they will not fall prey to a critical or cynical spirit, as that leads to a lot of damage to the work of the Lord.
4. **To minister with power.** Pray that God Himself will equip them for the work He has given them. Pray for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, so that they can do their work effectively. Also pray for the Holy Spirit to break open God's Word to them, so they will be able to correctly interpret it and have the ability to convey it to others. Ask for wisdom and great patience for them to handle difficult situations and difficult people. Also that they will know the will of God in each situation. Ask for a great boldness upon them to preach the Word of God (**Eph.6:19-20**).
5. **Their finances.** Pray for their financial support. Often pastors/ministers suffer financial lack placing pressure on them so that they look for another job to care for their families. (Children of spiritual workers often do not have the finances to go for higher studies.) Also pray for the protection of their earthly possessions, specifically against theft and accidents.

## Did you know?

### Sister Rani's murderer now says, "Christians are India's hope."

Samandar Singh killed a nun in 1995 and was sentenced to 11 years in prison. There he began plotting how he could take revenge on the man who pushed him to kill the nun. Then he received a visit from someone who happened to be the murdered nun's own sister. She hugged him and called him brother. He was profoundly touched by it. He gave up his plans for revenge and realised the sorrow caused by the murder. Eventually Samandar was released because of a petition signed by Sister Rani's family. When his release was slow in coming, a delegation went to see the local governor to plead his case. "Only you Christians can truly forgive," the latter said. "You are a great example. Go, I shall do all I can to get him released." Website: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Sister-Rani%E2%80%99s-murderer-now-says,-%E2%80%9CChristians-are-India%E2%80%99s-hope%E2%80%9D-18193.html>

## Teens-to-pray: How do I pray for myself?

1. Lord Jesus, give me the wish to read the Bible, and give me the Holy Spirit of wisdom and revelation so that I will understand the Word better (**Eph.1:17**).
2. Lord Jesus, make me a fisher of people (**Matt.4:19**) and a disciple-maker.
3. Lord Jesus, help me not to fear people and give me boldness to be Your witness wherever I go (**Acts 20:24**).
4. Lord Jesus, I pray for my generation of young people who are searching, who experience much hurt and rejection (**Isa.42:3**). I pray that You will make Yourself known to them as their Saviour and Mender (**Matt.11:27**).
5. Lord Jesus, sexual intimacy is portrayed by the media in so many wrong ways, and is portrayed in so many forms in films and advertisements. Help me to recognise and understand Your purpose with sex and to live a sexually pure life. Set me free from every wrong and unbiblical idea of sex and from addiction to pornography (**1 Thess.4:3**). Help me to seek help if I struggle to get victory in this area of my life.
6. Lord Jesus, fill me with Your Holy Spirit and give me the spiritual power to live in victory over sin, be Your witness and do the work You give me to do (**Eph.3:18-19**).
7. Lord Jesus, help me to see the things in my life that are not in line with the Scriptures. Also show me what to do to put this right, and exactly how You want me to live (**Rev.2:5**).
8. Lord Jesus, help me to see the need of other people around me. I don't want to live a selfish life. I ask that the Holy Spirit will show me what I must do about the needs of people around me (**Jas.1:27**).
9. Lord Jesus, my whole life lies ahead of me. I want to make the best of it. You know the best path for me, because You made me and I know You have a plan with my life. I open myself up to You Lord, that You can show me the way, and I choose to follow that path (**Jer.29:11**).
10. Lord Jesus, I ask that You will bring me the marriage partner you made me at the right time. Protect him/her from impurity and hurt and everything negative and destructive, so that when we get married, we will find joy in each other and that our marriage will be a testimony to others (**Heb.13:4**).

## International focus: How to pray when disasters strike

Natural disasters are the one thing we cannot control or prevent. We can prepare for them, but we can't prevent them; we can anticipate them, but we can't accurately predict them. There are numerous instances of earthquakes, storms etc. in the Bible, and their impact on nations; causing them turn either to, or away from God. Several earthquakes have struck the inhabitants of the earth since January 2010. How and what do we pray for when disaster strikes? The following are just a few interesting points on disasters that are listed as occurring all over the world the most often. Let us pray in these times for God's mercy upon the nations of the earth, as the earth urgently begins to moan and groan for the revelation of the sons of God, and the return of our Bridegroom, King Jesus Christ!

*Natural disasters in general are subdivided into different categories:*

Land movement disasters (avalanches, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions); water disasters (floods, tsunamis); weather disasters (cyclonic storms, droughts, hailstorms, heat waves, tornadoes); fire disasters; health and

diseases (epidemics, famine); space (Gamma ray bursts, impact events, solar flares, supernovas (explosion of stars) and hypernovas (disintegration of stars).

1. **Hurricane:** Hurricanes (Atlantic & eastern Pacific Oceans), tropical cyclones (Indian Ocean), and typhoons (western Pacific) are different names for the same phenomenon: a cyclonic storm system that forms over the oceans. *Pray for Christians working at different weather stations to hear God's voice clearly to be able to warn people in advance. Ask for people to take up spiritual authority and responsibility in prayer in this respect in every nation of the earth.*
2. **Earthquake:** An earthquake is the result of a sudden release of energy in the earth's crust that creates seismic waves. The magnitude of an earthquake is conventionally reported on the Richter scale, with magnitude 3 or lower earthquakes being mostly imperceptible, and magnitude 7 causing serious damage over large areas. *Continue to pray for various nations that have been affected or hit by earthquakes this year. Ask for the church worldwide to take up their responsibility to help, care for and support those in need. Also ask for God's mercy on the people where earthquakes occur, that many will testify of His grace and protection.*
3. **Tornado:** Tornadoes are violent, rotating columns of air which blow at very high speeds. Tornadoes can occur one at a time, or in large tornado outbreaks along squall lines or in other large areas of thunderstorm development. *Please pray for God's grace upon crops, livestock and residential areas. Ask that Christians will cry out to God amidst their distress and testify to God's answers to their prayers that will lead many others to Christ.*
4. **Volcanic eruption:** A volcanic eruption releases lava and poisonous gases into the air. Some eruptions form high-temperature clouds of ash and steam that can travel down mountainsides at speeds exceeding that of an airliner. *Lift up in prayer those nations affected by volcanic activity at the moment. Ask that many people will begin to call upon the Lord and surrender their lives to Him alone amidst their circumstances.*
5. **Tsunami:** A tsunami is a series of waves created when a body of water, such as an ocean, is rapidly displaced. Earthquakes, mass movements above or below water, volcanic eruptions and other underwater explosions, landslides, large meteorite impacts, comet impacts and testing with nuclear weapons at sea all have the potential to generate a tsunami. *Pray that people will be wiser in how and where they build houses, especially in areas where tsunamis are known to occur. Also pray that such nations will turn their hearts to the Lord and ask Him for the safety of people inhabiting their coastlands.*
6. **Flood:** *Pray for those who have been impacted by floods this year, that they will be able to rebuild their lives soon. Also ask for the church worldwide to reach out to such communities, and especially for God to pour out His Spirit upon them.*
7. **Wildfire:** Common causes of wildfires include lightning, human carelessness, arson and volcano eruption. Wildfires can also produce ember attacks, where embers carried on by the wind set fire to buildings at a distance from the fire itself. *Pray for people to be watchful and responsible in not causing these wildfires themselves. Ask for God's grace in areas where wildfires break out, that the wind will cease and the fire be put out quickly. Ask that people will cry out to Him to intervene, and for many to turn their lives over to Him.*
8. **Drought:** Droughts can persist for several years and can cause significant damage and harm the local economy. *Pray for regions affected by the El Nino effect, especially central Africa. Ask for God's grace especially upon children that suffer malnutrition and death. Ask that He will also reveal new agricultural methods to Christian farmers in these countries to provide for those in need, and so spread the gospel.*
9. **Avalanche:** Avalanches are one of the major dangers in snow-capped mountains during winter. As avalanches move down the slope they may entrain snow from the snow pack and grow in size. *Pray for communities to be on the watch for these avalanches, to warn one another and be able to escape safely. Also ask for Christians in such areas to stand in prayer before the Lord for the safety of their region.*
10. **Landslide:** Landslides can be caused by an earthquake, volcanic eruptions, or general instability in the surrounding land. Mudslides or mudflows are a special case of landslides, in which heavy rainfall causes loose soil on steep terrain to collapse and slide downwards. *Lift up in prayer those who suffered the loss of a loved one due to a landslide this year. Ask for Christian scientists to have favour from the Lord to find*

*scientific ways to spot possible landslides before they happen. Pray for communities vulnerable to landslides to stand before the Lord in prayer for the safety of their area.*

(In this article, factual material is used from *Wikipedia* articles: Natural Disasters. Prayer requests and conclusions are those of the writer of this article).

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **Focus on skills development: Prison labour**

Inmates may be compelled to do manual labour in the future if Prisons Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula has her way! A review will now be done to see whether the old system of regular labour for inmates could be brought back. Watching TV all day is not enhancing the skills and social consciousness of locked-up criminals. "Inmates should understand and appreciate, like all of us, that it is important to wake up in the morning and do some work. Besides other jobs, they should cook for themselves, so we don't pay these millions for catering," she said. Website: <http://news.iafrica.com/sa/2322901.htm> Give thanks to the Lord for comments like these from government's side! Please pray for the implementation of these proposals soon, that inmates will really be equipped and shaped to live responsible lives whilst still in prison. Ask for Christian organisations to form part of these projects, and bring the gospel to them as well.

## **Did you know?**

### **Simbiti hunger for God's Word in Tanzania**

Praise God for this report from Pastor Wayne, Simbiti Bible translator: "To reach the Simbiti villages I must board a ferry. Once I arrived in the village, a large group of people gathered to hear the reading of the Word. As soon as we broke for morning tea, they immediately wanted to get their own copy. The scripture portions are selling for 400 shillings. The cost of morning tea was also 400 shillings. Everyone chose to buy the scriptures and go hungry that morning rather than buy food. That's how strong their hunger for God's Word is." Wycliffe Prayer Focus Bulletin. Website: [www.wycliffe.net](http://www.wycliffe.net) or e-mail: [Personnel\\_Southafrica@wycliffe.org](mailto:Personnel_Southafrica@wycliffe.org)

## **Prayer story: Youth With a Mission (YWAM) celebrates 50 years of God's favour**

*"Suddenly, I was looking at a map of the world. Only the map was alive, moving! I sat up. I shook my head, rubbed my eyes. It was a mental movie. I could see all the continents. Waves were crashing onto their shores. Each went onto a continent, then receded, then came up further until it covered the continent completely. I caught my breath. Then, as I watched, the scene changed. The waves became young people - kids my age and even younger - covering the continents. They were talking to people on street corners and outside bars. They were going from house to house. They were preaching. Everywhere they were caring for people..."* This is the story that's still as fresh in the heart and mind of YWAM leader and founder Loren Cunningham, as it was that day in 1956 when God showed it to him. YWAM was eventually founded in 1960 and this year celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, honouring God for thousands of souls added to His kingdom, thousands of prayers answered, lives restored, as well as signs and miracles that are too many to write down.

### **The 1970s: Two hotels, a shipwreck, and a vision**

From December 1969 to the summer of 1970, YWAM held its first school, the *School of Evangelism*, with a total of 36 students. The students' lodging and classes took place in a newly renovated and leased hotel in Lausanne, Switzerland, which they purchased at the end of that year. Later that decade, a school that would focus on Biblical foundations and character development as well as missions, started. The school, the *Discipleship Training School (DTS)*, added an outreach phase to the program. This format: three months of lectures followed by two or three months of outreach, is still used in most Discipleship Training Schools today. Then a vision came into port. Loren envisioned a ship for ministry to port cities around the world. That vision was to be the vessel for some hard lessons to the growing YWAM family to never value the tools of God's work above God Himself. Ten years later the *Anastasis* was launched as the first in a fleet of YWAM Mercy Ships.

YWAM today is an international volunteer movement of Christians from many backgrounds, cultures and Christian traditions, dedicated to serving Jesus throughout the world with a simple purpose; to know God and to make Him known. YWAM has a decentralised structure that encourages new vision and the exploration of new ways to change lives through training, conveying the message of the gospel and caring for those in need. They are currently operating in more than 1,000 locations in over 150 countries, with a staff of nearly 16,000. Let us give thanks to the Lord who did so much more than could ever be thought or prayed, through the obedience of thousands of people the past 50 years.

YWAM now has major centres on every continent but Antarctica! A large proportion of their number hails from Brazil and South Korea. In the next few years, YWAM leaders expect to see an explosion of missionaries from China to other parts of the world. Along with their colleagues, these Chinese YWAMers may be witness to unprecedented growth in both numbers and persecution, if prophetic words to the mission's leadership are well-founded. These twin surges in fruitfulness and hardship would indicate the continued need for this missionary movement to be adaptable, creative and willing to go to the places, to do the things for which few others are prepared.

If you feel God speaking to you, there is an opportunity for you to get involved. YWAM offers an exciting range of short and long-term opportunities, whether you want to go on a mission trip or embark on a lifetime's missionary career, whether you think your daughter might enjoy a 6-month discipleship course or would want to get her Bachelor of Arts at YWAM's university. For more information contact Miranda at YWAM SA, P.O. Box 330, Muizenberg, 7950. Tel.: 021 788 73 45. Website: [www.ywam.org](http://www.ywam.org) or e-mail: [ywamafricom@gmail.com](mailto:ywamafricom@gmail.com) or blog: <http://commsteamafrica.blogspot.com/>

#### **FOCUS ON 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST VIOLENCE IN FAMILIES: 25 NOV - 10 DEC 2010**

To be able to pray effectively about these issues, we need to understand better what abuse and violence entails. Emotional abuse is e.g. the unseen fallout of all other forms of abuse: physical, mental, verbal, sexual, and even spiritual abuse. People often minimise the importance of emotions. Yet with deeply wounded people, their feelings can be the driving force behind their choices. Emotional abuse strikes at the very core of who we are, crushing our confidence and eating away at our sense of worth (**Prov.17:22**). Will you not join us in prayer in every sphere of influence God has granted you, to mobilise others to pray for our men, women and children who are either responsible for or victims of different forms of abuse, asking for their healing, restoration and for them to come to radical conversion, surrendering their lives to Jesus Christ. (Some of the notes used in these prayer pointers were taken and adapted from: *Biblical Counselling Keys* by June Hunt).

#### **Children-2-pray: Victorious prayer**

Why is prayer such a big deal? If grownups believed in prayer, then why are they so worried? Can I really trust God to answer my prayers? How should I speak to God? How often should I pray to have a good prayer life? These are all questions we will try to answer this month and so encourage you to pray!

**MONDAY: What is prayer?** Prayer is talking to God, as well as listening when God speaks to us! We talk often with our friends and family. God is our friend and our heavenly Father. He wants to talk to us. *Heavenly Father, I love You and want to speak to You more often. Please remind me to speak to You right through the day! In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

**TUESDAY: Why should we pray?** There are many reasons for praying: To give the Lord our thanks and praise, to confess our sins, to ask Him for help with our problems, to ask His help for others, and just to talk with our Father. *Heavenly Father, thank you for my life, and that I can tell you anything that happens in it. Help me remember to speak to You about my problems until they disappear, so that others can also come to know You are real. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

**WEDNESDAY: How should we pray?** You can close your eyes, bow your head, kneel down or fold your hands to pray. This position shows respect. But, you can also pray while you walk to school, sit in the bus or taxi, or when you wake up in the middle of the night and feel scared. Remember to pray in Jesus' Name, because Jesus told us to ask or pray in His Name and through the cross and His blood that was shed, we have free access to the throne of God (**John 16:23b**). *Lord Jesus, teach me how You want me to talk to you. Help me remember at any time and place that I can talk to you and that you are never far away. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

**THURSDAY: When should we pray?** Men and women in the Bible have taught us that we can pray anytime. **1 Thessalonians 5:17** tells us to "Pray without ceasing". There is never a bad time to pray. *Heavenly Father, thank you that You are always awake and listening to my prayers; that You never get tired and are available to help me day and night! Remind me to pray all the time. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

**FRIDAY: Where should we pray?** You can pray anywhere. The Bible says that God is everywhere, so you can be in any situation, place or any kind of trouble, and when you pray He will hear you and answer your prayer as He knows best how to answer it. *Thank you Heavenly Father, that You are with me, even when I am scared or something bad happens to me. Thank you that I can always cry out to you, day or night. I put my trust in You alone. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*