

WOMEN-IN-THE-GAP

Millions of women across the world suffer abuse, rejection and in some countries they are not even treated like human beings. In 2006 a number of Christian women, at a *MANI* consultation (*Movement for African National Initiatives*), felt that God was calling them to stand up and unite in prayer for all women around the world. They felt that they could no longer simply look on as millions of women were subjected to this horrific abuse, suppression and humiliation, without doing something about it. Thus the *Hadassah Watch* came into being and since then, women are joining in focused prayer on a regular basis. Hadassah is the Hebrew name of Queen Esther of the Bible. As women, like Hadassah, we are called to arise and take up our position as intercessors.

As women we know how to pray for other women

We know that our prayers will make a difference. Remember the prayers of Hannah (1 **Sam.1-2**) and how the son that God gave her in answer to her prayers provided a nation with a leader and a prophet? The prophetess Anna, who served God in the temple for more than 60 years with prayer and fasting, was privileged to see the coming of the Messiah (**Lk.2:36**).

Prayer focus

We pray for the issues that influence the lives of women all over the world. We have selected three specific issues, but everyone should feel free to pray as they experience the Holy Spirit leading them. From time to time, we will focus on other issues as well.

How does it work?

We call on Christian women as either individuals (praying by yourself) or in groups (Bible study / prayer group etc.):

1. To spend 15 minutes in prayer every Tuesday morning before 13h00.
2. To spend 5 minutes on each of the three issues every time you pray.
 - a) **Marriage/families**
 - Pray for issues in your own marriage, or that of a friend or family member.
 - Pray for issues concerning your children, or those of a friend or family member.
 - Pray for felt needs for yourself, your husband, children, or those of a friend or family member.
 - b) **Salvation of family members and the unsaved**
 - Pray for their eyes to be opened to see their need of Christ.
 - Pray for them to become hungry for God and to go to church.
 - Pray for them to grow spiritually and testify of God's goodness in their lives.
 - c) **Governments/authorities – issues of the day.**
 - Pray God's heart regarding the news headlines of the day.
 - Pray for the President and government officials. That those who do not know Him will be saved and hear God's voice.
 - Pray for the Police and security services to be successful in their work.
 - Pray those criminals will be caught and stopped in their criminal activities and that they will turn their lives over to God.
3. To encourage and mobilise as many women as possible to join in these prayers.
4. To subscribe at info@hadassahwatch.org to receive regular updates on issues of the day and how to pray about these.