

TIPPING POINT SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER. 18 NOVEMBER 2018.

Introduction.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers. Herewith our prayer points for period from 10/12/2018.

The prayer points are arranged day by day so that you can pray for a different subject each day.

Issues of critical importance are placed for prayer every day, not just once weekly.

The December holiday period and Christmas is upon us, a time when our entire country stops working for a month! We all need rest physically, God Himself rested on the 7th day, and thereby set a pattern of rest for His children to follow. But, critically, we cannot rest spiritually. On the contrary – holiday time gives us an opportunity to spend more time in the Word, and with God in prayer. Be assured, our enemy, the devil, does not rest over the festive season. He uses our idle time to tempt us to spiritual laziness, and holidays also present extra opportunities for temptations and sins, which may be less apparent when our days are full and we are busy. Not for nothing, the proverb says "idle hands are the devils workshop"(proverbs 16:28) Please utilize this opportunity over December to accelerate your prayers, and pray for protection against the temptations which come with "idle hands"

While December is a special month for most of us, please remember that, for some, it is a difficult month, filled with hardships, loneliness and painful memories. Please remember those folks in prayer, especially the lonely and hurting. Where possible, as the Lord leads, do something practical to encourage and help those in need of friendship, love, financial assistance or company.

Remember, James 2.7 teaches us that faith without works is dead. Let's ask the Lord to show us, how, this December, we can be Jesus hands and feet in a broken and sad world.

Daily prayer – President Cyril Ramaphosa.

We started to pray, on a daily basis, for our president Cyril Ramaphosa about a month ago. Can there be any question we need to continue to keep him covered in prayer on a daily basis. Humanly speaking, he has an impossible job. No one individual can save our country from the rampant crime, corruption, financial woes and crumbling infra-structure, only God can.

The Bible teaches us to pray for those in leadership. The bible also teaches that all governments (which would include our current government) are appointed by God, for the good of their citizens. We have a biblical command and obligation to pray for Mr Ramaphosa, and others in leadership. Over and above this, we believe that Mr Ramaphosa is God's chosen instrument for this time of crisis in our country (Esther 4:14). Brothers and sisters, we owe it to ourselves, our children, our country, and Mr Ramaphosa to pray for him, fervently and earnestly, every day!

- Thank God for giving us president Ramaphosa for a time such as this, (Esther 4: 14) pray that God would protect him, guide him and bless his every action.
- Pray that he would have the courage to do what Angus requested – honour God and His Word in every action and decision. This is not easy to do and will require great courage in the face of resistance and criticism.
- Pray for him for wisdom to make the correct decisions and govern our country with wisdom and grace, much as God granted to king Solomon at his request.

Mondays– land reform and redistribution.

This remains an issue that won't go away. Recently law was passed which, on the surface, may have serious and damaging repercussions. BUT GOD – God is not finished with our country, or with us as his children. Every crisis, every dead end, is an opportunity for us to cry out to God for help and mercy, full knowing He hears when his children cry out to Him (Psalm 51.15)

There enough land for all – God grant us the wisdom and grace to distribute the land in a righteous and wise manner!

- Pray daily for every farmer / landowner:
 - For peace, prosperity and a conciliatory attitude towards others
 - Pray earnestly that difficult and dangerous times will draw our farmers and all involved closer to God, nor further away from Him in bitterness. **Pray that farmers and their workers would be saved and born again, on a scale never seen before.**
 - Pray for reconciliation between farmers and their workers where such tensions exist.
- Pray for the government, for all involved for wisdom to make courageous, correct and righteous decisions. Pray especially for President Ramaphosa for wisdom to effectively lead us out of this crisis.
- Pray for all who feel they have a right to land – for fair treatment and wisdom by all parties. Pray also that delays and frustrations will drive them closer to God, not further away into rebellion and violence.
- Pray against the forces of evil wanting to use the land issue to incite hatred, and bring division and violence to our country.

Tuesdays: Court case - same sex marriages (21 Aug) Gaum vs NG church.

Judges are still deliberating. Moore and more, however, we feel pressed to pray for the NG church in particular, and the church in South Africa as a whole. It feels as if God is using this court case to achieve a bigger goal, the cleansing of His church, and its re-instatement of his church as an authoritative voice in South Africa. Please pray for the Church, and especially the NG church, to regain its prophetic voice in our country. In the past few decades, the voices of secular humanism, post modernism and human wisdom have become louder, whilst, sad to say, the authoritative word of God, spoken by the church has become less and less distinct.

- We ask God to forgive NG church leadership mistakes and compromise made in the past, as regards same sex relationships. We pray that God would cleanse and free His church from any long term consequences of this transgression.
- We ask for a holy boldness, among pastors and church leadership, to always speak the truth without compromise, but in love, humility and compassion.
- We ask that the Lord would forgive, cleanse and use the NG church in a mighty way in our country, as an instrument too win souls for the Lord Jesus, but also as an instrument to bring healing, love and restoration to a country still hurting and divided as a result of past injustices.
- We pray that God's will be done in this court case, and that there will be no compromise regarding the Word of the Lord. Pray that the Lord will guide the judges as they deliberate the case.

Wednesdays: Our police force, army and corrective services.

Romans 13 teaches that the police force, and armed forces, are a sword in the hands of the government, a tool to be used to guarantee law and order in a country, thereby ensuring peace and safety to all citizens. Sad to say, this is most certainly not the case in our country. Our police force has lost almost all authority, effectivity and credibility. Police member's daily risk their lives, trying to maintain law and order in a country given over to a spirit of violence, lawlessness and death. Please keep these brave folks in your prayers, asking God to intervene and cleanse our country from the evil forces promoting violence and bloodshed.

- We intercede for all involved in police work and security, keeping us safe.
 - That God would keep them safe and protect them and their families as they risk their lives daily for us.
 - Pray that the danger would not make them bitter or cynical, but rather drive them to God in prayer and repentance.
 - Pray that the daily danger and the reality of death would cause them to question their own eternal destiny, and that the Spirit would lead them to Calvary, where Christ paid the price to save us all.
- We pray for all in leadership positions – police, army and corrective services. Ask the Lord to expose and root out all corruption and theft of funds, and to replace corrupt officials with honest and God fearing persons.
- Pray for a revival in our police, army, corrective services – **Jesus in the heart of every man and woman tasked to keep us safe.**
- **Pray for a new respect for our police force, but also a love, gratefulness and compassion from all citizens in our country.**

Thursdays: Schools, Universities, Colleges.

Our scholars, students and young people are on holiday. Just as for the adults, this is not only a time of rest, its also a time of increased temptation – evil in the form of drugs, alcohol, pornography is so easily available. Young people need our prayers for protection, at time of rest and fun can so easily become a time of pain, sadness and loss. Above all things, we pray one pray for our children and young people – that God would grant them a future in this lovely country of ours.

- Ask the Lord to forgive our school and education system for rejecting Him and removing Him from our classrooms in some cases. Pray for repentance and Godly leadership in the education department.
- Pray for each student / scholar for:
 - Responsive hearts open to the Word of God and the Gospel. **Pray for Jesus in the heart of every scholar and student in our country**
 - Protection against wrong influences and bullying
 - Protection against impurity, wrong relationships, rape and pornography.
 - Protection against the attraction and power of drugs and alcohol.
- **Pray for our country –that God would have mercy on us, that every young person would know there is a future for them here.** Pray against a spirit of depression and despondency in those leaving school, college and university and feeling there's no hope for any kind of future here.

Fridays – Election 2019, economy and government.

Surely no election, apart from 1994, is as important as the 2019 general election. This is literally our last chance – God is giving us one more opportunity to vote in a God fearing and just leadership. Many of us are old enough to remember how God intervened in 1994 to save us from a blood bath. The entire world media was here to record just such an event. They had to leave in disappointment. Some were honest enough to recognise what had actually happened – a God given miracle. (BBC featured a program on our path to democracy entitled – South Africa, a miracle rising)

Now, a simple question – Would God intervene supernaturally in 1994 to save a country, only to desert that same country in 2019 – of course not. God is waiting to hear and answer our prayers, the only question is, will we be obedient, and spend the necessary time and energy in prayer for our country – I truly hope so!

- Election: Ask the Lord to bring the right candidates to the forefront. Pray especially for Christian parties and Christians who hold political positions. We continue to pray for our brother in Christ Errol Naidoo. We ask that the Lord give him wisdom and lead him very clearly where exactly and what political party to become involved. Pray as well for his protection and his family.
- Election: We ask the Lord for a spirit of prayer over our country in preparation for the 2019 elections - on a scale never seen before with any previous election. Remember to thank the Lord for the answers to prayers during the 1994 elections and we plead with Him to be merciful to us again.
- Election: We pray for a favourable outcome in the 2019 election. **A government that respects and honours God in every decision, a parliament opened every day with scripture and prayer!**
- Corruption: We pray against this spirit of corruption and bribery, which is damaging our economy to such an extent. Ask the Lord to expose and turn this around, so that the economy can flourish and jobs be created.
- Economy and jobs: Pray for the workless, as if it was you yourself waiting day by day for any kind of work, just to put some bread on the table. Ask God to bless our economy to the extent that many jobs will be created.

Saturdays – Churches around the country.

We have already mentioned that the church in South Africa, broadly speaking, has lost its voice. There are even those who are saying that the church has lost its relevance! Thank God that is not true – God WILL build His church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it. (Mathew 16.18) The only question is, are you and I, and our respective churches, going to be part of this? I truly hope so!

Dr M Lloyd Jones (British preacher) once said – “The church is not a protest organization. The church has a message of hope (the only message of hope) for a desperate and dying world.” There is a desperate, and dying world out there, waiting for the church to stand up and offer them hope – the only hope for the world – Jesus Christ, and Him crucified (1 Cor 2:2)

- Pray for churches across our country:
 - Pastors:
 - That pastors would proclaim the message of salvation fearlessly and without compromise. (1 Cor 2:2)
 - For pastors with a deep love for the Word and for prayer.
 - Members

- For new conversions, in accordance with the great commission of Mathew 28.
 - For spiritual growth in existing church members.
 - For church members to stand up for Christ and bring a message of hope too their workplace, home, school, university, circle of friends etc.
- Universities, bible schools and colleges.
 - For Spirit-filled professors and mentors to train our young preachers.
 - That liberal theologians will be exposed and removed from teaching.
 - That any other un-biblical teaching will be uncovered and removed.

Sunday - Families and children

“As the family goes, so goes the nation.” The family has always been the building block of Christian nations. Children flourish and grow in God fearing and God honouring families.

Pray especially for broken homes and separated loved ones in the Christmas time, when painful memories and loneliness becomes even more acute.

- Pray for restoration of marriages nationwide.
 - That marriages on the verge of divorce will be renewed and saved. (Perhaps you know someone who is experiencing marital difficulty - please pray for them by name and for their children. Pray daily for the family’s salvation)
 - That men will rise to take on their responsibility as fathers and spiritual leaders of the family.
 - That mothers will not be so professionally focused that families and especially children suffer neglect.
- Pray for broken households
 - That single parents will increasingly experience Jesus' love and that they will not become despondent/discouraged. Pray for single parents for strength and wisdom to raise their children to love and fear God.
 - We pray for children of single houses, that the Lord himself will take the place of an absent father or mother in their lives, and use this difficult situation for good (Romans 8:28)
- Pray for orphans
 - There are hundreds of thousands of children that are orphaned due to HIV and other causes.
 - Pray for God to intervene and to be gracious to the children. Pray that the church will rise up and increasingly play its part in the care of orphans. (In line with the biblical command in James 1:27)

We would like to thank everyone who is participating for your prayers- we know it will not be in vain!

Blessings,

MPC prayer team.