

TIPPING POINT SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER. 14 JANUARY 2019

Thank you for your ongoing prayers. Herewith our prayer points for period from 14/01/2019. You will note that the prayer points are arranged day by day so that you can pray for a different subject each day. Issues of critical importance, however, are placed for prayer every day, not just once weekly.

Introduction.

2019 is a new year with new challenges, joys and sorrows in wait for us. God has been gracious and allowed us a time of rest, and now we face a new year with all its difficulties and challenges. Isn't it wonderful that the Christian faith allows us to start each year, in fact each day, in a new and a fresh way? We have the privilege of being able to put our past behind us, knowing that God will not hold our past sins and failures against us, in fact He does not even remember them (Hebrews 8 vs 12)

Before we take on the challenges of 2019, let's go together to the Lord, and put all the failures, sins, disappointments, tears and pain of 2018 behind us, as we ask the Lord to bless us afresh in 2019. New years resolutions mean nothing – they are bound to be broken, what we need is a new spirit, more of Christ in our lives, and less of ourselves and our own endeavours (Galatians 2:20 – I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me...")

Let's pray together and dedicate 2019 to the Lord.

Dear Lord, thank you that every sin, failure, disappointment and heartache of 2018 has been covered by the blood of Jesus. When Christ died on the cross, he took, in my place, the punishment and pain for everything that happened in 2018. I lay the sins and failures of 2018 at Your feet, and thank you Lord, that these sins have already been punished in Your blessed Son at Calvary. Thank you that I can know, for certain, that I have been forgiven, and more than that, washed white as snow (Isaiah 1:18)

I dedicate 2019 to Your care, and Your service, dear Lord. Thank you that nothing which is going to happen in 2019 will come as a surprise to you. I commit myself, to the best of my frail human ability, to become a prayer warrior for You this year, help me Lord, to truly become a man/woman of prayer. Amen.

DAILY PRAYER – NATIONAL ELECTION 2019.

We believe that the 2019 election is so critical that it warrants countrywide, daily prayer and intercession.

Most of us will remember 10 April 1993, the day Chris Hani was assassinated. The immediate fear was, what next? Will our already strained and fragile race relationships survive this catastrophe? I believe that, chiefly in response to this tragic event, Christians in South Africa turned to God in prayer, and many prayer groups were started as a result. In Bloemfontein, for example, thousands signed up to become part of a 24/7 prayer chain and network.

God intervened mightily in response to our prayers. In the events leading up to the 1994 election, miracle followed miracle, and we experienced a peaceful and blessed election – against all expectations. Even the secular media recognised and acknowledged the miraculous in that election – A BBC documentary was entitled: "South Africa, a miracle rising."

Does anyone doubt that God would do this again? Of course He will – God will answer our prayer for the 2019 election – on one pre-condition, that we commit ourselves as Christians to pray, and petition Him without ceasing for this election. My dear Christian brothers and sisters – we are going to do exactly that – we are going to pray without ceasing, day by day, for the 2019 election, trusting God, who does not change, for a miracle!

Please pray, every day, for the following:

- A peaceful and blessed election in 2019.
- A government that:
 - Acknowledges God and His Word in every decision.
 - Acknowledges Jesus Christ as Lord and saviour of South Africa.
- Pray for president Ramaphosa.
 - That he would obey God and His Word in every decision he makes.
 - That he would accept and acknowledge Jesus Christ as lord and saviour of his own life.
 - For supernatural wisdom and courage to do the right things and make the right decision, for the benefit of our country and all who live here.

Does this sound as if we are asking for the impossible? Of course, humanly speaking this is impossible, but NOTHING is impossible for our God. Let's hold onto God, in faith, to do the impossible for our country, to the glory of His name!

Mondays– land reform and redistribution.

*This remains a sensitive issue. Land and agriculture is an emotional subject close to the heart of many in our land. We continue to intercede for farmers, workers, and government, for a God given outcome to the glory of His name. **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: Racism, discrimination and racial hatred.

Only this week we experienced another sad example of how rampant racism, racial tensions and racial hatred still is in our country. In this case, innocent school children and their teachers / headmaster were victimised and traumatised in a racial incident, where political parties exploited them and their school for political gain.

We read in Romans 3:23 – "all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God."

On judgement day, ALL will stand guilty before a righteous God, there will be no discrimination on grounds of colour or race. Only those who have accepted the sacrifice of Christ, and been born again, will escape the wrath of God. The very act of being born again cures us, for ever, from all racial hatred and discrimination. God puts His Spirit into us, and with that, a supernatural, God given love for all people. When I realise that I am a sinner, deserving of hell, and saved by God's grace alone, I lose all hatred and disrespect for others, God gives me His eyes to look at others differently!

We pray for:

- A country wide revival – Jesus in the heart of every man, woman and child – the result will be the end of all racism, racial tension and racial hatred.
- We ask for mutual forgiveness, restitution and restoration of relationships, where racism has been an issue in the past.
- We pray for our schools and universities – for God's protection for scholars, students and lecturers against racism, racial hatred and all the consequences thereof.
- We pray for the government elected this year that it will oppose and scrap all legislation which may promote racism and racial tension in our country.

Wednesdays: Our police force, army and corrective services.

Angus Buchan laid much emphasis on prayer for police and protective forces at the "It's time 2" prayer day last year. We continue to intercede for all those involved in our protection for the year 2019.

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.

2019 has dawned for our scholars and students. Many hopefuls have pitched up at primary schools, high schools, and tertiary institutions, hoping for an opportunity to study and improve themselves. Tragically, many had to be turned away...

We continue to intercede for our learners, and those tasked to teach and nurture them. We ask for God's blessing, and a revival in our education systems, and above all, that God would be merciful and grant our students, learners and young people a future in our beautiful land, South Africa.

- 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 – Economy and corruption.

Millions in our country are without a job. Over and above this, millions more have travelled from other African countries, in search of a living here. Humanly speaking, there is no way our country can provide financing and work for all these people – we need a miraculous intervention from God.

To compound matters, millions, if not billions of rand are being squandered due to mismanagement of funds, corruption, greed and bribery. Money which should be stimulating our economy, and creating employment, is lining the pockets of the greedy and the dishonest, who already have more than their fair share of wealth. If this is grievous to you and me, think how much more this grieves the heart of a righteous and holy God.

We pray for:

- All those suffering the humiliation and hardship of having no employment. We ask the Lord to be merciful to them. We also pray that the hardship will drive them to God himself, for an outcome, and not to despondency or to crime. Pray for them, as if it was you yourself waiting day by day for any kind of work, just to put some bread on the table.

- We pray for the economy of our country, for a God given blessing and revival, that we would have enough to serve the needy and desperate.
- We pray against corruption at all levels, especially the spirit of dishonesty and greed. Pray that the Lord would protect those in government, and those in high positions from the temptations of corruption, kick backs and financial favours in the awarding of tenders and projects.
- We pray for a government to be elected which hates crime, bribery and corruption, and endeavours to fight this evil at every level.

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 or not? 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, and children flourish and grow in God fearing and God honouring families. Satan has always hated the family, Gods way of protecting and nurturing children, bringing them up in the fear of the Lord. Pray against all satanically inspired attacks on the family

- 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.