



Leading Prayer

## PRAYER REFLECTIONS Part 1

"God does nothing except in response to believing prayer." John Wesley.

"I'm praying for you" is a statement that I have been blessed to hear said to me on numerous occasions. Those words have shone a light on my path and strengthened me over the years, particularly during challenging times. It brings with it a source of encouragement and assurance that others are concerned for our welfare and care enough to present us in prayer to God.

Equally uplifting and empowering has been the wonderful scriptures that teaches us the impact of prayer and reminds us that we have a loving God who is eager to both hear and answer our prayer. What an awesome privilege!

I can certainly testify of the faithfulness of God as He watches over His Word and brings it to fruition in our lives. I have seen the reality of John 14:13 & 14 which states: "And whatsoever you shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name I will do it." Through the many answered prayers

that I have experienced, and the resulting praise reports – God has indeed been honoured and the faith of others strengthened; and for that we give thanks

Over the years what I thought I knew about prayer has been redefined through the various life events I have encountered. God has taken me on an enriching journey through the tests and trials as I called out to Him in prayer. Additionally, as a leader, the role I occupy has helped to not only reform my prayer life but my relationship with God.

Andrew Murray's quote "Faith in a prayer-hearing God will make a prayer-loving Christian" - is on point as I can certainly attest to this fact.

When I accepted the call to serve at the British Union Conference as the Health Ministries Director, after 26 years of working in the National Health Service with management experience, it would have been easy to list the transferable skills that would best equip me for the role. Yet I realised that being called to

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**"The men who  
have done the  
most for God in  
this world have  
been early on  
their knees."**



minister in this new capacity could not be taken lightly or considered business as usual. God led me to request a special prayer and anointing service for God's favour on my life and work and His leading before I even ventured into the office. The results – God has navigated the journey and brought results that would not have been possible without His intervention. Subsequently, the role of Disability Awareness was added and in the second term of office - Women's Ministries. The perusal of prayer was intensified. I saw the value of Oswald Chambers' quote:

"Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." As I commence a third term in office and embrace the mandate of servant leadership - the highs and lows that it brings, the changes and challenges; I am

ever reminded to seek God's wisdom daily. A favourite prayer quote from Ellen White (Prayer, p23), posted on my notice board at work, highlights the importance of prioritising God in our prayer life: "Consecrate yourself to God in the morning; make this your first work. Let your prayer be, 'Take me m O Lord, as wholly thine. I lay my plans at thy feet. Use me today in thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in thee.' This is a daily matter. Each morning consecrate yourself for that day. Surrender all your plans to Him, to be carried out or given up as His providence shall indicate." (Part 2 will be in the January 2017 edition).

**Sharon Platt-McDonald, Director Women's, Health and Special Needs, BUC.**



## Prayer: the greatest secret of a holy and happy life

### If Not Blot Me Out!

**Exodus 2:32**

**"Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin--; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written."**

This verse reveals the standing spiritual leaders must have before God. "Forgive their sin Lord, they are my people, I have identified myself with them, so if you plan to destroy them then you will have to destroy me too!" Ellen White provides further insight in Patriarchs and Prophets, page319.1:

*"As Moses interceded for Israel, his timidity was lost in his deep interest and love for those whom he had in the hands of God, been the means of doing much. The Lord listened to his pleadings and granted his unselfish prayer. God had proved His servant; He had tested his faithfulness and his love for that erring, ungrateful people, and nobly had Moses endured the trial. His interest in Israel sprang from no selfish motive. The prosperity of God's chosen people was dearer to him than personal honour."*

How many religious leaders feel the same way about the people they are responsible for? How far does their identification with others go? God tells us in Isaiah that he wondered why there was no intercessor (59:16). The mark of true intercession is selflessness. Where does the distinction between the intercessor and their protégés begin and end? It reminds me of another famous intercessor – "Father forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). Loving God and loving our neighbours as ourselves requires leaders to identify with others in all situations - even when there seems to be no hope. Exasperating and seemingly impossible though the task of shepherding unruly, stubborn self-seeking sheep may be; there is help from 'The Good Shepherd' who leads the way and knows just how to lay his life down for his sheep.

**Jehovah Rohi, Divine Shepherd, we all like sheep have gone astray. Thank you for setting an example for your leaders to follow. Empower them through your Holy Spirit to become mighty intercessors for those precious souls you have entrusted to them, just as Moses was, amen.**



**WELCOME TO **

Welcome back to ETR Facebook, a place of international worship through prayer, intercessions, exhortations, testimonies of God’s goodness in our lives. We have testimonies of answered prayers, sharing God’s word through devotions, through links to Hope Sabbath School, practice of prayer leaflets, Hopecalls.org website, ETR website and through interactions with our contacts as well as contacts of our contacts! What a mighty God we serve friends! He has lovingly made it all work together for his namesake, honour, glory and praise, Praise the Lord.



**PRAISE REPORT**

We thank God for sis L who recovered following a ritual that was performed on her against her will, Praise be to God. We also thank God for enabling her to do very well in her exams. May the Lord continue to bless sis L as she hungers and thirsts after righteousness.



Praise be to God for providing a beautiful home for sis C and her daughter after many months of confinement in a small setting with trials, tribulations as well as victories.

God be praised for all the birthday celebrations that have been taking place from our very own ETR Facebook contacts as well as contacts we are linked with through our contacts, God bless you all.



We thank Great Jehovah for giving sis A a financial breakthrough at the very last minute, what an on time God we serve!

May the Lord’s name be praised for growth that has taken place on ETR Facebook since middle of May 2016 up to date.

**WHAT WE ARE DOING?**

It is with **much appreciation and heartfelt gratitude** to see you all take part in this ministry; your involvement has led to its growth and we thank God from whom all blessings flow. **A number of you (1182 individuals)** have liked our page and we thank God for that. **Our contacts have increased from 3902 to 5000.** In the last 28 days, our **posts have reached 50,910 individuals with 8197 people engaged** by sending in comments, likes and sharing, praise the Lord. We also thank God for **approximately 72 prayer requests received since middle of May** this year. Let us never forget that God’s will for our lives is the best, and **with God in the driving seat, we can never go wrong.** We may not understand the straight and narrow way, nevertheless, **let us cling to Almighty God** and one day, that glorious day, we will receive our crowns of eternal life.



**THANKSGIVING**

If it were not for the Lord touching your hearts to participate in our ministry, it wouldn’t function as well as it is, and thus, we give God all the glory, honour and praise for what he has done and is doing. Your continued support is invaluable, God bless you all as we continue to worship him in spirit and in truth on ETR Facebook.



## Events & Prayer Calendar- September- December 2016

**September:** Effective public services: NHS, social services, education, welfare and emergency services

**October:** Freedom from fear and violence; peace, safety in the nation and local communities

**November:** People experiencing persecution, pestilence, poverty, war or natural disasters; missionary work

**December:** SDA leaders: worldwide, nationally and locally. Church growth, evangelism, revival & reformation

**Events:** Prayer Ministries Meeting: 20 November, 11 December; 5-12 November Week of Prayer

## Leaders For Such A Time!

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible (Hebrews 11:27).

History books record many great leaders on this planet. Amongst those of renown, Alexander the Great, Genghis Khan, Gandhi and Churchill, no one stands out more, than Moses! Son of Amram and Jochebed, of the tribe of Levi, Leader of the Israelites,

Hand-picked by God! Great leaders are heaven sent, whether they are a prophet, a Messenger, or teacher.

We see this in many examples in the Bible. Jeremiah; "Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations (Jeremiah 1:5).

Of Joshua "the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun..... saying....now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people Joshua 1:1-5.

And Moses "Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt." (Exodus 3:10).

In every generation God has continued to call men and women into His work. The best leader is one that is led and does not seek to lead. Jesus made this very clear to His disciples who were arguing about hierarchy within the church.

Who would be the boss? Jesus is not looking for "Bossy Boots" to lead His people. His response to the disciples' quarrel was simple. To become a great leader, you have to be a servant. Having said this, He took a towel, wrapped it around His waist and washed their feet.

Servants can be told what to do, are willing to listen and to obey. They recognize that they have one who is higher than them. He gives instructions that are precise and are non-negotiable. Servants believe that the One who oversees all, is keeping a watchful eye on their work. They know that He accompanies them as they move from task to task.

Mrs White writes this about Moses:

*"Moses had a deep sense of the personal presence of God. God was real to him, ever present in his thoughts. When misunderstood, when called upon to face danger and to bear insults for Christ's sake, he endured without retaliation (Conflict and Courage page 176).*

Being a leader is tough! Obstacles will challenge faith and commitment, daily. She further writes:

*"Much of the faith that we see is merely nominal: the real, trusting, persevering faith is rare." (Conflict and Courage page 176).*

God will reward the man of faith and obedience. This faith has to be experienced in the life. God must be seen in every detail. Then the presence of God will be sufficient to carry you through every situation and temptation.

God promises this, "As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." Joshua 1:5 (last part).



## Testimonies

### Overcoming By The Blood And The Word Of Testimony

Please join us as we thank and praise God for his faithfulness in answering prayers.

29/06/16

I had a mountain to climb – an urgent financial need in order to pay fee for application for Settlement in the UK - needed to raise a lump sum of money before 24th June 2016. I have not been in paid employment for over a year thus didn't have funds required. Towards the end of March 2016, I decided to send a prayer request to End Time Rain, Women's Prayer powerhouse, WhatsApp group and to my sisters in Christ. Prayers always ascended on my behalf, we prayed and fasted too. Time was ticking, and was thinking to myself, "where would I get all this money in less than three months?"

I decided to ask the bank for a loan and the adviser issued a telephone appointment saying that they would let me know over the telephone whether I qualify for a loan or not. A number of days before my telephone appointment with the bank, I received a text from A dear sister in Christ offering to donate £250 towards the fee, I was happy, thanked her and thanked God but in my mind was still thinking about how much loan to ask for when I receive the call from the bank – my mind was not at peace at all about borrowing money from the bank due to interest rates plus how I would pay it back considering I am not in paid employment. Nevertheless, I prayed asking for Gods will to be done.

On the day my telephone appointment with the bank was due, I did NOT receive a call from the bank at all...I didn't attempt to call or go to the bank for further inquiries, I knew it was NOT God's will and left it at that. Was relieved even though didn't have all funds I needed at the time. Thereafter, one evening, a sister in Christ and I were having a text dialogue about the funds issue and mentioned to her that God had already provided £250 through another sister, little did I know that the dialogue we had was going to lead to a group being formed on WhatsApp up in order for individuals to donate any sum of money towards my settlement application fee. I was caught by surprise, I was in tears, the group leader worked hard asking for donations whilst updating the group about donations collected so far, I felt the love of God in action, I then felt impressed to inform my friends as well as other brothers and sisters in Christ about the matter, A few of them joined the group and the rest didn't join our group but still made donations and another friend also offered to help. Donations were coming in steadily, however, there was still more funds to collect. Prayers and

fasting did not stop. I then decided to ask my church pastor to pray for me. He suggested that I meet with him and two church elders for prayers. Informed them about my request, they all prayed for me and I left the pastor's office. That same week, the Lord put on my heart to look through the home office website, only to find out that the fee had been increased from £1750 to £1875! I panicked, little did I know that the Lord had prepared my pastor's heart, the two Elders and the church board to donate a sum of money, which they did hence donations rising to £1450, praise the Lord. At this time, was left with £425 to raise. Saints of God, whilst donations were still being made steadily, prayer and fasting for my settlement application fee never ceased. Meanwhile, God performed a miracle, I received a letter and a certificate granting me legal aid of £5000 for my ongoing family matter that is currently being addressed through the court, was in tears, tears of Joy, praise the Lord. Friends, God didn't stop there, more donations were coming in towards my Settlement application fee, and in the meantime, God performed another miracle.

*Testimony of Jesus*



Also found out that she and her associates run a charity organization that helps families, children, mothers etc. Friends, this sister paid £116 towards my Dental registration, she also offered to pay for my DBS, and the Job Centre also contributed £116 towards my Dental registration because the job Centre had offered to help before this sister in Christ did. It is only when we were in the process of making the payment that I realized why God allowed me to bump into this sister in Christ, God knew that I bumped into a sister in Christ whom I met once before, I could remember her but she could not remember me at first.

We continued speaking, she then remembered me, this sister asked lots of questions including why I am not working. I gave her my explanations, thereafter, she asked me to write her an email regarding my employment matter and I did. the General Dental Council would ask me to pay a total of £232 for my work registration even though the fee for a year's registration is £116! This is due to the fact that this year's dental registration comes to an end at the end of July there after the new/next dental year starts at the beginning of August, hence dental professionals being asked to pay for next dental year during this period. Saints, isn't it a blessing to Obey Almighty God? I could have ignored the Holy Spirit's prompting and walked past the lady, but I didn't, I reached out to her and said hello, and this led to God's blessing upon my work situation Praise the Lord and can happily testify that I am now on a job hunt as a registered dental nurse.

As you can see, the Lord was performing other miracles in the midst of donations taking place towards my application fee for settlement and in the end, not only did the Lord provide the rest of the money for my settlement application fee through my sisters in Christ and friends giving me a total of £1875, the Lord also placed in the heart of a brother in Christ to pay my rent which he did, he paid a month's rent, praise God. Almighty God Also provided money to pay for my Life in UK Test (A test done as a part of obtaining settlement) which I Sat and passed praise the Lord.

A sister in Christ who had made a pledge of £100 donation towards my settlement fee, was late in giving the money because God had already provided the whole amount, but she still gave the money that she had pledged and I have used it towards other things, God be praised. Brothers and sisters, what a mighty God we serve, how excellent is God's name in all the earth, God saw my tears, he saw our afflictions through fasting, he heard our prayers and answered exceedingly, abundantly, above and beyond what we could ever ask or think according to the power that worketh in us. I pray you are encouraged to pray on, to fast, and never give up on God, He surely is Able. My sincere gratitude to all who prayed, fasted with me, and to all who gave donations, you have been the answer to my prayer. God bless you beyond measure. **Thank you Lord. Sis C.**

*Testimony of Jesus*

### Contact Us, Contribute, We'd Love To Hear From You

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