



August Prayers for East and Southern Africa

Somalia is located at the easternmost tip of the African continent, known as the 'Horn of Africa.' The country continues to struggle with hunger and civil war. Many girls in Somalia undergo female genital mutilation at the age of 7 or 8, a practice intended to ensure their social status, purity, and marriageability. This is perpetuated by the false belief that uncircumcised women are promiscuous and unclean. Please pray for the eradication of these harmful practices.



카카오톡 채널에서 '소망의 여인들' 채널을 추가하시면
매주 월요일에 기도카드를 받으실 수 있습니다.

1. Victims of human trafficking often have difficulty trusting in their relationships. Lord, give helpers gentleness, patience and love as they work to build trust and confidence with victims. (Ps. 56:3)
2. Heavenly Father, we ask that you be with the girls in Zanzibar who are forcefully converted to Islam to gain employment. Help them stand firm in their faith. (Col. 1:23)
3. Poverty is common in Burundi as prices increase. Many families cannot even afford one meal each day causing them to beg in the streets for food. Lord, be their provider. (Ps. 23:1)
4. Amid drought, God, help local authorities and communities in Zimbabwe to harvest safe water for hospitals, schools, elderly homes and prisons. (Exod. 17:8)
5. Father, please provide the girls in the cities of Eswatini who are engaged in prostitution with better employment. Lead them into a better life with you as their guide. (Ps. 18:6)
6. Lord, may trust and peaceful communication develop between those in Somalia who follow Jesus and those who do not so that conflict may be avoided. (Heb. 12:14)
7. Lord, please bring gender-based violence in South Africa to an end. May churches be proactive in providing practical teaching and guidance so that hearts may be changed. (Ps. 121:7-8)
8. Thank you, Father, that women are coming to faith in Jesus Christ and growing in their relationship with God through the TWR Women of Hope ministry in Ethiopia. (Rom. 10:17)
9. Lord, breathe life into and restore marriages in Botswana where the divorce level is so high. Bring healing to those who have suffered divorce in their past. (Ps. 30:2)
10. God, please provide sewing machines for the refugee women in Tanzania so they may learn entrepreneurship skills. (Prov. 22:29)
11. Even in impoverished regions of Burundi, men often spend their small income on adulterous relationships, to the harm of their families. Change the hearts of these men, Lord! (Heb. 13:4)
12. Lord, raise God fearing leaders in Zimbabwe who will shun corruption and work faithfully for better socio-economic and spiritual outcomes. (Exod. 18:21)
13. God, we pray that the culture in Eswatini that prevents women from holding leadership positions in the church would be changed. (Prov. 4:7)
14. Father, bring security and protection for the people of Somalia. Shield its civilians from the armed conflicts around them and bring peace to this nation. (Ps. 91:1-2)
15. Lord, we praise you for the many volunteers for TWR Women of Hope in South Africa, especially the prayer calendar translators. Please bring them a much-needed national coordinator. (Phil. 1:3)
16. God, give guidance and provision to the University graduates in Ethiopia who cannot find jobs. Grant wisdom and protection to those who leave the country to find employment. (Prov. 16:3)

Abide, Unite and Go – PART ONE

A Word of Hope by Lisa Hall, International Prayer coordinator for TWR Women of Hope

17. Lord, we ask you to protect girls in Botswana from dependency on alcohol and drugs. Please deliver these children and help their families raise them. (Matt. 6:13)
18. Lord, please increase the number of radio stations that air the Women of Hope programs in Tanzania so that more women can find hope and healing in Jesus. (Rom. 15:13)
19. Father, we pray for peaceful 2025 elections in Burundi as unrest affects women and children in greater proportion. (Dan. 2:21)
20. Amid poverty and unemployment in Zimbabwe, God, may family providers abstain from rituals, prostitution and sale of illicit substances to make a living. (Ps. 54:4)
21. Lord, bring cultural change in Somalia so that the practice of female genital mutilation will stop. Many women are suffering. (Ps. 5:11)
22. Father, send abundant rain to the drought-stricken parts of South Africa to relieve the poverty and food insecurity of the women there. (Zech. 10:1)
23. We praise you, Lord, for how you have brought healing and provision to the families of our TWR Women of Hope intercessors in Ethiopia. (Ps. 103:1-5)
24. Father, we ask for protection and comfort for the women in Tanzania who face being sexual abuse in order to gain employment. (Ps. 91:14)
25. We pray, God, that women in Burundi will be trained in entrepreneurial skills so that they can begin a small business (Prov. 3:13)
26. Father, provide for the innocent people who are suffering from lack of food in the war zone of Ethiopia. (Ps. 40:17)
27. Although there is freedom of religion in Somalia, there are many restrictions that keep Christians from sharing their faith in Jesus. Lord, may your salvation message go forth. (Acts 4:29-31)
28. God, we pray for women in South Africa who are discouraged with life and suffering from depression. May they put their hope in Jesus. (Ps. 34:17)
29. God, please raise up volunteers and create new prayer groups for the TWR Women of Hope ministries in the Pemba and Zanzibar Islands and the Tanzania mainland. (Matt. 9:37-38)
30. Father, protect married women who are mistreated in Burundi communities. In marital conflict, even if the husband is the cause, the blame always falls on the woman. (Ps. 43:1)
31. Lord deliver young people in Zimbabwe from substance abuse, theft, sexual immorality and identity crises. May they come to know you and be set free. (Col. 1:13)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

In 2024 we have been exploring the messages Broken, Submitted and Set apart for God in Holiness. Here we discovered our need to be broken over our sin, to submit our will to God and to pursue holiness by living for God alone. We have learned to empty ourselves and die to sin. As a result, God draws us to himself in intimacy. In this second series, Abide, Unite and Go, we will see how God: desires us to abide with him, unite ourselves as one Body of Christ and go into the world with his message of salvation.

Abide means to remain, continue, stay, dwell or reside. We abide in God and he abides in us. The God of the universe lives with us and makes his home in us. How incredible is that?

When you invite someone into your home, there may be areas that you do not give them access to. It takes a deep level of trust to invite others to enter every area of your home. Abiding with God involves a process where we come to trust him and give him full access and control over every area of our lives.

When we place our faith and trust in Jesus as our Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. (Acts 2:38) guide us and lead us into all truth. (John 14:17) Because God is spirit, when we become a child of his we live in both the physical world and also in the unseen spiritual realm where God dwells. "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:6). We now live "in Christ" in the spiritual heavenly realms. This is the present position of every Christian.

Understanding our lives "in Christ" is so critical. At salvation we died to ourselves, our self-centered desires and the sin that once ruled us. We were made alive in Christ and filled with God himself. Now we can live "fully alive" because we live in and through the giver of life. Our relational God pursues us in love and communes with us. He desires for us to bless him back with our reverence, love and gratitude, and longs for us to find joy in his presence just as he delights in ours.

God describes our abiding relationship with him as a covenant where we are set apart just for him. Intimacy with God is possible because of the exclusivity of the relationship, just as a husband and wife are joined in marriage to be exclusively for each other. (Eph. 5:31-32) We are not to have allegiances to other people or things that are more important to us than God. He is to be first in our lives, and anything that we place ahead of God is seen as a breaking of this covenant.

As we abide with God, he forms in us his divine characteristics. God fills us and gives us power to live a godly life. And as we believe God and his promises, we learn to trust his character and are transformed to be like him.

So what is our part in this relationship as we abide with God? God calls us to love him (Matt. 22:37) and to embrace humility (Col. 3:12), obedience and the fear of the Lord (Ps. 128:1). We are to be filled with the Word of Christ (Col 3:16) and live according to the Spirit (Eph. 5:18, Gal. 5:25). 1 John 2:6 sums up God's desire for us: "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did." It is good for us to reflect on our lives and ask, "What areas of my life do I need to give God access?" and "How do I need to change so that I rightly reflect Jesus?" May the love and grace we receive from God as we abide in him flow through us and draw others into relationship with Jesus.

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