

PRAYER FOR TODAY

encouraging you to pray for change



Season of Prayer

DAILY PRAYERS
18th Oct 2013 – 31st Jan 2014



2014

Mission Prayer Focus

HOPE 2014 Season of Prayer **18 October 2013 - 31 January 2014**

HOPE began where Hope08 left off... bringing local churches together in mission to transform communities. Throughout 2014 churches of all denominations have committed to share the hope we have in Jesus - together in words and action.

To launch this year of mission, HOPE invites you to join more than a million Christians around the country using this daily prayer guide as we intercede for our nation. Use the prayers when you are praying alone, in home groups, as a church, as groups of churches or in Christian organisations. Every Sunday we provide a written prayer which could be used in worship services.

Two key dates

Friday 18th October 2013

The HOPE Leadership team and guests will join 40,000 worshippers at the 'Festival of Life' – a night of prayer hosted by the Redeemed Christian Church of God in London's Excel Centre.

- Organise a prayer meeting that evening or make Sunday 20th October HOPE Prayer Sunday.

Tuesday 31st December 2013

- Usher in HOPE 2014 by starting the year in prayer interceding for our nation.

Together in word and action

Find out more about HOPE at
www.HOPEtogether.org.uk
@HOPEtogether on Twitter and
on the HOPEtogether Facebook page.

OCT

HOPE THROUGH THE CHURCH

Source: Redeemed Christian Church of God

FRIDAY 18TH OCT ROM 15:13 2014 YEAR OF OPPORTUNITY

HOPE 2014 invites every Church and every Christian across the UK to work together to share the good news of Jesus in word and action. Pray for the thousands of Christians gathering at the 'Festival of Life' in London tonight to launch this HOPE season of prayer, that passion for God will be rekindled.

SATURDAY 19TH OCT ROM 12:1 DEDICATION TO GOD

We are the epitome of God's creativity and love, and our lives should be devoted to Him. Let us pray that our hearts will be set on things that are godly, constantly looking to Christ as our model of perfection. Lord, may we embody Your good news today.

SUNDAY 20TH OCT 2 CHRO 7:14 HEAL OUR LAND

Father, we pray that You will unite Your Church here in the UK, and bless all involved in preparing for united mission through HOPE 2014. As we humble ourselves and seek Your face, we pray You will forgive us our sins, and open heaven to rain down blessings that will heal our land. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 21ST OCT MATT 6:5-16 PRAYER AND FASTING

Fasting and prayer together bring about special breakthroughs, and release God's presence, power and change. As we prepare for this upcoming year of mission, let us ask God for a renewed desire to seek His face in the place of prayer, and to practise the discipline of fasting.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Find a hope prayer partner -
someone you can pray with
each week during this
season of prayer.

TUESDAY 22ND OCT ACTS 1:8 COME HOLY SPIRIT

In order to accomplish great things for God, we need the Holy Spirit to enable and empower us. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will equip us and enthuse us to engage with people in our families, communities and workplaces, so that we may share with others the saving grace of Christ.

WEDNESDAY 23RD OCT MARK 1:41 HEARTS OF COMPASSION

Let us ask God to give us compassionate hearts for those in our community who are ill, distressed, broken-hearted, bereaved and in need. Let us ask God to lead us to someone today who needs to experience the kindness of God. Our compassion might herald a new dawn in their story.

THURSDAY 24TH OCT ROM 1:16 BOLDNESS

As secularisation and religious pluralism increase, the vision of HOPE 2014 is that all Christians will be bold to proclaim Christ to those around them. May God give new passion for mission to all the Christian leaders meeting today at Lambeth Palace, hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to launch HOPE 2014.



OCT

HOPE FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Source: Crossing London

FRIDAY 25TH OCT HEB 12:14 RESTORING RELATIONSHIPS

Family relationships and friendships often become strained or fractured. Pray for those close to you whose relationships need to be restored, that God will bring reconciliation and understanding, and that they will create enough space in their lives so that the Holy Spirit can show them the other person's point of view.

SATURDAY 26TH OCT JOHN 10:14 WHOLENESS IN RELATIONSHIPS

We only find true wholeness when we know our identity as children of God. Pray for family members and friends who need to be reminded of their true identity today. Ask the Holy Spirit to show them where they fit into His purpose and His family, and to show you how to encourage them.

SUNDAY 27TH OCT ACTS 16:31 WHOLE HOUSEHOLDS SAVED

Father, please give gifts of grace and faith to those members of my family who don't yet know You. Create in them a hunger for You and stir them to respond to You. May the households of my extended family all be saved, and their homes be filled with Your presence. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 28TH OCT ROM 12:2 SEEKING GUIDANCE

Think of friends and family who have important decisions to make. Pray that they will not settle for second best, but will be prepared to make the sacrifices needed to discover God's good, pleasing and perfect will. Pray that the Holy Spirit will guide them and that they will listen to His voice.



TUESDAY 29TH OCT PHIL 2:5 BEING CHANGED

Ask God's forgiveness where you have tried to change the ones you love, rather than trusting the Holy Spirit. Over the next few weeks, pray for 20 or so of your family and friends, asking that each one would become more fully the person God made them to be, by the power of His Spirit.

WEDNESDAY 30TH OCT GAL 5:1 BEING FREE

Every prison in our lives, whether emotional or practical, has a spiritual root. We only find freedom when God's Spirit breaks the chains that hold us, and helps us live to the full as Father God intended. Pray for your friends and family, that they would experience the liberation that only Jesus can bring.

THURSDAY 31ST OCT ISA 54:10 BEING LOVED

Many find it difficult to feel loved by God. Pray for your friends and family who do not yet know God, or understand how much He loves them. Pray that they would seek Him and find Him. Pray for those who have run away from Him, that they will hear His voice calling them back.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Bless a friend you haven't
seen for a long time by
inviting them round
for a meal.

NOV

HOPE THROUGH UNITED MISSION

SOURCE: HOPE 2014 and Evangelical Alliance

FRIDAY 1ST NOV NEH 1:4 PRAYER PRIORITY

Nehemiah had a vision to put things right in his city, but he fasted and prayed before he acted. Prayer allows God to give us His plans. Today, ask God to show you your village, town or city as He sees it, and to give you His heart before you act.

SATURDAY 2ND NOV MATT 9:35-38 COMMUNITY

Jesus saw individuals as part of a community. Let's give thanks today that God has put us in a local community, but also that He's put us in family with other believers within that community. Ask Him to give you a big heart for the family of God where you live.

SUNDAY 3RD NOV EPH 4:4 ONE BODY

Father, I ask today for unity among the churches in my area. Bless each church leader, and help leaders and congregations to develop a spirit of love and openness towards one another. Forge strong relationships which are mission-focused, emphasising the hope we have in common. May we act as one Body, united by one Spirit. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 4TH NOV JOHN 17:15-18 TRUTH CARRIERS

Give thanks to God for Alpha, Christianity Explored and other resources which enable us to share the good news of Jesus. Pray for fruitfulness for all the mission being planned leading up to Christmas, so that many people will come to know Jesus. Ask God to show you how to be a truth carrier!

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Do a prayer walk past every church in your local community this week

TUESDAY 5TH NOV LUKE 24:30-32 FIRE OF GOD'S LOVE

Bonfires will burn tonight to mark Guy Fawkes' 'Gunpowder Plot', which had its roots in Christian conflict. Pray today for the broken Body of Christ: that God will ignite our hearts to burn with His passion for the lost, overcoming our differences for the sake of the Gospel and exploding with His love and light.

WEDNESDAY 6TH NOV ACTS 2:1 ONE SPIRIT

The Spirit brings us together for mission, but maintains our distinctive qualities as congregations, so that we reflect the diversity of God and His Kingdom. Let's pray that we will continually encourage and affirm unity, as well as embracing our diversity. Let's pray that we can celebrate our differences whilst also sharing our strengths.

THURSDAY 7TH NOV 1 PET 3:15 HOPE-FILLED ANSWERS

Are you prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you why you have hope? As we reach out in mission together, putting faith into words and action, we are trusting that God will prompt people to ask 'why'. Ask for God's help as you consider how to explain why Jesus gives you hope.



NOV

HOPE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Source: HOPE Revolution

FRIDAY 8TH NOV PRO 22:6 EDUCATIONAL PRESSURE

Give thanks for the privilege of free access to education in the UK. Pray that Christianity won't be silenced in our schools, and that Christian young people will live out their faith with confidence. Pray for young people you know, that they will find the right balance of having fun alongside working hard.

SATURDAY 9TH NOV PHIL 2:4 RELATIONSHIP BREAKDOWN

Pray for children you know who are in a difficult family situation: for peace when tensions between parents run high, and for comfort when they feel broken-hearted. Ask God to put around them a strong network of adult mentors and peer friendships, so that they have people they can trust and open up to.

SUNDAY 10TH NOV 1 TIM 4:12 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Almost 100 years ago, a world war began which wiped out vast numbers of Europe's young men. Father, raise up a generation of children and young people in the UK and across Europe who follow You with passion. May young people everywhere be encouraged to challenge the old and to unlock the new.

MONDAY 11TH NOV 1 TIM 6:12 MISSIONAL LIVING

Pray for Christian young people, that they will be passionate disciples and witnesses for Jesus to those around them. Pray for protection from the pressures of their culture and the strategies of the enemy. Pray for much fruit from the HOPE Revolution 'Mission Academies' being launched for 2014.

Read the article
'The meaning of
Remembrance'
in Prayer for
Today magazine
www.ucb.co.uk/pft

TUESDAY 12TH NOV JOHN 10:10 BULLYING

Nine out of ten children have some experience of bullying, either as a witness or a participant. Pray for an end to bullying! Pray that bullied young people will find the right support, that their friends will stand up against the culture of bullying, and that suicide rates among young people will decrease.

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOV EPH 2:10 SALVATION

Give thanks that God longs for every child and young person to come to know His Son Jesus. Pray for children or young people you know who don't know God's love; that they will have a revelation of how awesome it is, and will link up with a youth group or holiday club in 2014.

THURSDAY 14TH NOV PS 139:14 SELF-IMAGE

Many of our children and young people have never heard the truth that they are made in God's image. Pray for protection for the most vulnerable: for those who struggle with eating disorders, who become addicted to drugs, alcohol and pornography, or who are drawn into sexual relationships to find their value.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
*What are the most urgent needs
faced by young people in your
community? How could you
support organisations seeking
to meet those needs?*

NOV

HOPE FOR THE MARGINALISED

Source: 24-7 Prayer

FRIDAY 15TH NOV PS 144:14 TRAVELLER COMMUNITIES

Father, we pray for the traveller communities throughout our land. Many travellers experience misunderstanding and rejection because of their alternative way of life. We pray that the Church will find relevant ways of engaging with these communities, and that travellers will find a welcome in local congregations.

SATURDAY 16TH NOV MATT 25:40 IMMIGRANTS

Jesus, as the political debate regarding immigration rages on, help us to be wise in the face of a media agenda which often seems xenophobic. May we understand the complex issues at stake, yet never fail to welcome people as You would welcome them, extending love, hospitality and help to those from foreign lands.

SUNDAY 17TH NOV JAM 1:27 DEFENDER OF THE DEFENCELESS

Father, I pray for people on the margins of society; those who society views as a problem; those who feel abandoned and overlooked. I speak blessing over those living with mental illness, those who can't find work, and those struggling with addictions. As they reach out for help, may they find You there beside them. (Source: Bible Society)

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
*Could you do any
volunteering in your community
to help those in difficult
circumstances?*

MONDAY 18TH NOV PS 146:9 PRISONERS

Father, we pray that the power of Your presence will break into our prisons, and into the lives of prisoners. We pray for those implementing prison reform, for agencies caring for ex-offenders, and for restorative justice projects. We pray too that churches will know how to bring help and hope to staff and inmates alike.

TUESDAY 19TH NOV PS 145:18 UNEMPLOYMENT

Lord, we pray for those we know who are looking for work, that You will steer them to the job which is best for them. We pray that they will know You as Father during this difficult time. Show us, Your Church, how we can support those who are struggling to find work.

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOV JOHN 6:35 ADDICTIONS

Lord, we pray for those who are caught in addictive lifestyles, that You will come and set them free. We pray for their friends and family, for perseverance and hope. We pray for agencies offering therapy and rehabilitation to those struggling with addictions: Lord, please do miracles through their work.

THURSDAY 21ST NOV MARK 10:27 ELDERLY PEOPLE

Father, we pray Your comfort for those we know who are finding themselves lonely and isolated because of old age. May church communities hear the challenge to look out for those who are trapped by illness or lack of mobility, and to demonstrate the love of Jesus to them in word and action.

NOV

HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

Source: National Day of Prayer and Worship



FRIDAY 22ND NOV ROM 10:15 MESSENGERS

Father, You call Your Church to be Your messengers of good news. Mould us, we pray, to serve You better. Breathe fresh life into our churches today, and give us a fresh vision of You. Help us to share Your love in our communities, so that many will discover Jesus in this upcoming HOPE year.

SATURDAY 23RD NOV ISA 58:7-8 PRACTICAL ACTION

Give thanks for social action projects in your community. Pray that many will find their lives transformed. Pray for a spirit of collaboration and unity as agencies and organisations work together. Lord, may our witness be prophetic, prompted and guided by Your Spirit, that we may give hope in dark times.

SUNDAY 24TH NOV EPH 3:16-19 THE FULLNESS OF GOD

Father, may the believers where I live be rooted and established in love, and may we grasp how wide, how long, how high and how deep Your love for us truly is. Fill us to overflowing, so Your love spills out into our communities. Empower us to love those around us as You love them. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 24TH NOV PS 11:7 LOCAL LEADERS

Lord, we pray Your blessing on the influencers in our communities. We pray for all involved in the media, that they will publish true records of events. For those in the sports and leisure industry, we pray that You will shine through them, using them to bring joy and encouragement to those they interact with.

TUESDAY 25TH NOV 1 TIM 2:1 PRAYER FOR EVERYONE

The early Church was birthed in the place of prayer. Almighty God, we ask that You will renew in us a desire to pray. We ask that You will raise up prayer groups all over our communities, so that every person will be prayed for, befriended and given the opportunity to hear about Jesus.

WEDNESDAY 26TH NOV ISA 60:1 ARISE AND SHINE

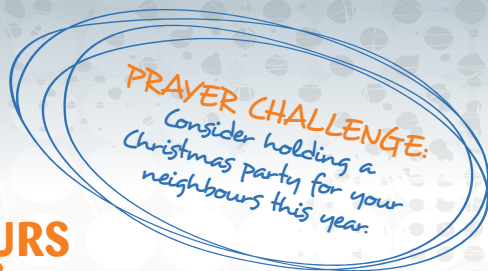
Father God, we speak out Your will and word today. We say to our communities: "Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you". May the atmosphere of our communities be saturated with Your 'shalom' peace. May we shine for You, Glorious God.

THURSDAY 27TH NOV ROM 12:12-13 GOD'S LOVE

In the name of Jesus, we pray for families in our communities today: for those homes where violence is rife, that God will intervene; for those suffering from isolation and depression, that the Holy Spirit will bring comfort; for parents who are struggling to cope, that God will send help and sustenance.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Organise a church prayer
walk around your local
community this week

DEC



HOPE FOR MY NEIGHBOURS AND WORK COLLEAGUES

Source: Neighbourhood Prayer Network

FRIDAY 29TH NOV JOHN 4:34 HOPE ON MY STREET

Father, please use me to sow seeds of Your love among my neighbours. Help me reflect Your image more and more, so that I become more effective in helping my neighbours come to know You. Lord, please let me see my street transformed, as people turn to You.

SATURDAY 30TH NOV LUKE 10:36-37 BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Lord, help me to look for situations where I can do good for others, whether at home or at work. Help me not to tire of trying to be a good neighbour, especially when I face rejection. Give me strength to keep persevering, and guide me to the people who need my help the most.

SUNDAY 1ST DEC MATT 5:16 ADVENT SUNDAY

Father, fill me to overflowing with Your presence and Your love, so that I shine as a bright light on the street where I live and in the place where I work. Help me to act with kindness towards everyone I meet today, and help me to demonstrate Your heart of love wherever I go. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 2ND DEC JAM 5:13-16 HEALING

Lord, I pray for my neighbours and work colleagues who are unwell at the moment. Thank you that You have the power to heal physical, emotional and spiritual sickness. In the assurance of Your goodness, I pray that You will heal them completely. Give me boldness to tell them I am praying for them.

TUESDAY 3RD DEC 2 SAM 11:26-27 HARMFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Lord, I pray for those I know who are in relationships which are harmful to themselves or to others. Please give them the courage to walk away from destructive behaviour-patterns in their relationships. I pray for my neighbours and work colleagues who are married; help them to persevere in keeping the vows they made.

WEDNESDAY 4TH DEC LUKE 15:31-32 PRODIGALS

Lord, I pray for my neighbours and work colleagues who once knew You, but have lost their faith. As we approach this Christmas season, may the story of the incarnation remind them how much You love them, and may they choose to make a new start with You.

THURSDAY 5TH DEC PS 68:6 LONELINESS

Lord, I pray for those in my neighbourhood who feel lonely, whether because they live alone, or because they feel isolated and misunderstood in their own families. Please give me an opportunity to show friendship, so they know they're not forgotten. Please bring down the walls of separation which stop us getting to know others.

DEC

HOPE IN MY VILLAGE, TOWN OR CITY

SOURCE: World Prayer Centre

FRIDAY 6TH DEC PROV 16:11 BUSINESSES

Lord, I pray for Your blessing on the businesses and employers in my local area (pray for some by name). May those who own and run businesses be people of integrity, doing what is right for their employees, for their customers, for the local community and for the environment.

SATURDAY 7TH DEC ROM 13:1 EMERGENCY SERVICES

How can your church support those who work for the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services? Pray for protection as they handle every request for help, particularly where there may be violence or disorder. Pray that each team will work harmoniously together, and that they will know the gratitude of the communities they serve.

SUNDAY 8TH DEC MATT 6:9-10 YOUR KINGDOM COME

Father, I pray for the place where I live. May Your Kingdom come and Your will be done here in my community. Please come in Your power and set the captives free; bring freedom for those imprisoned in sickness and addiction, and release those oppressed by their circumstances. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 9TH DEC PRO 21:1 COUNCILS

In this time of austerity, the Church could help to ease the burden for our councils and local authorities if we worked together more. Give thanks for those elected to your council, and pray that God will give them wisdom. Pray for greater cooperation between the churches in your area and your local authority.



TUESDAY 10TH DEC PS 97:2 THE LEGAL SYSTEM

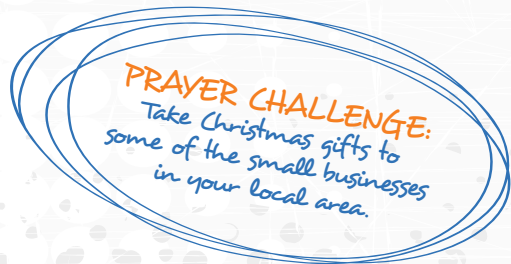
We expect our courts to give a fair trial. Yet sometimes errors of judgement can occur, or lack of evidence can make it hard for juries and magistrates to reach a verdict. Pray for those who work at your local law courts, that God will guide them to discern truth, and to judge fairly.

WEDNESDAY 11TH DEC MATT 4:23 HEALTH SERVICES

Jesus the Healer, I thank you for my local GP practice, dentist and hospital. I pray for all those working to keep my local community healthy. (Think of those you know who work in this field, and pray for them by name). May they be skilled, compassionate, full of integrity and available when needed.

THURSDAY 12TH DEC 2 COR 3:17 SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

I pray for the schools and colleges in my local area, that they will be safe, peace-filled, fun places to learn, as well as championing academic excellence. I pray there will be many open doors for people to go into schools and colleges in my area to share the good news of Jesus.



DEC

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Is there ever a prayer team praying during your church carol service? Why not arrange one this year?

HOPE FOR ALL

SOURCE: The Message Trust and Soul Survivor

FRIDAY 13TH DEC **ISAIAH 43:18-19** **NEW OPPORTUNITIES**

God has been shaking many of the things our country relies on: banks, media, politicians and more. We are not the same country that we were last year. God is doing something new. Ask Him to raise your faith to look for new opportunities for evangelism, and then to expect positive responses.

SATURDAY 14TH DEC **1 CORINTHIANS 9:22** **REACHING MEN**

This month dozens of churches will be holding carol services in football stadiums, taking the Gospel to places where men feel they're on home territory. Pray that those leading the events will use language that the man in the street can understand, and that the fans and their families will want to become Jesus' followers.

SUNDAY 15TH DEC **LUKE 10:2** **THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL**

Father, thank you that You want everyone to be saved. You say in Your Word that the harvest is plentiful; please send more workers into the harvest field. Raise us up to be people who witness to Your love and demonstrate the power of Your good news, shining the light of Your Gospel everywhere we go. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 16TH DEC **PS 18:16-19** **HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS**

Many churches will provide night shelters for homeless people this winter. Pray this psalm for each street

sleepers: that they will know that God delights in them. Pray that the Church will be a 'spacious place' where they can recover self-respect, and that many will find these shelters provide a step to wholeness this year.

TUESDAY 17TH DEC **REV 22:17** **RENEWED PASSION FOR MISSION**

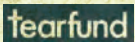
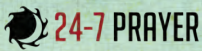
"The Spirit and the bride say 'Come!'" That's us, the Church, cooperating with the Holy Spirit, inviting people to come to Jesus. Pray today that God will renew our passion for mission. Who will you invite to a Christmas event in your home or your church, so they can find out more about Jesus?

WEDNESDAY 18TH DEC **ACTS 17:22-23** **MAKING CONNECTIONS**

Paul found a way to make the message of Jesus relevant to the Athenians. Christmas gives Christians all kinds of opportunities to talk about Jesus. Pray that, as we communicate God's love, our language will connect with people's hearts, and our actions will demonstrate the Kingdom.

THURSDAY 19TH DEC **JOHN 1:41-42** **MEETING JESUS**

Andrew brought his brother to meet Jesus, and that brother, Simon Peter, became a founding father of the Church. Think of the people you meet each day, and pray for them by name, that God will help you introduce them to Jesus this Christmas. Ask Him to give you words which will touch their lives.



Soul Survivor



Make It Happen.



'We are thrilled to know that more than a million people will be using this Mission Prayer Focus as we usher in HOPE 2014 and a year of mission together in word and action. We are stronger together than apart as we focus on what we have in common: hope – because of Jesus. We are grateful to UCB for making this Mission Prayer Focus available to so many different denominations and ministries so we can intercede together for our country.'

Roy Crowne, HOPE

DEC

HOPE AT CHRISTMAS

SOURCE: Evangelical Alliance

FRIDAY 20TH DEC LUKE 1:13 SPRINGS OF HOPE

The world can seem such an impersonal place and we can feel isolated, but the good news is that God's full attention is upon us. Thank you God that the loudest shouts of celebration and the deepest sobs of sorrow are both known to You. Replace my darkest fear with springs of hope I pray.

SATURDAY 21ST DEC LUKE 1:19 A GOD WHO SPEAKS

Not only does God listen to us but He also draws near to us, speaking words of challenge and transformation. Father, we remind ourselves this week that Your Word took on flesh and blood in Your Son Jesus Christ. We pray that many would find the good news this Christmas.

SUNDAY 22ND DEC MATT 1:23 GOD WITH US

Father, thank you that You are with me. Help me to be more aware of Your in-dwelling presence today. May Your life in me, comfort those around me who find Christmas a lonely or stressful time. Immanuel, God with us, awake the hearts of those in this place who don't know You yet. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 23RD DEC LUKE 1:49 OUR MIGHTY GOD

A Saviour came into the world and darkness was destroyed by light. How can we be people of light? Lord, this Christmas we pray that every church congregation in every corner of the UK may be good news to their communities. Lord, make us those who bring light into places of darkness.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Is there a member of your family who doesn't know Jesus yet? Make a particular effort to pray for them each day this week.

TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER LUKE 2:7 NEW HOPE

God came in human flesh and there was no room for Him. Even when things seem to have gone wrong, God is still in the midst and in control. This Christmas, we pray for those whose lives haven't turned out the way they imagined they would. May they find new hope in this season.

WEDNESDAY 25TH DEC LUKE 2:13 CELEBRATION

Joy has flowed from the heart of God into the world, yet the world often thinks that following Jesus is about negativity. Brilliant God, we want to be people of celebration, who delight in You. Make us agents of joy this Christmas, so that our communities will see that Christians know how to celebrate.

THURSDAY 26TH DEC LUKE 2:17 SPREADING GOOD NEWS

Christmas is a brilliant time to let people know about the child who is the Saviour. Lord, in the midst of the festivities, may we take every opportunity to share You. Help us to find moments to share Your story with those who have never heard or understood it before. May it change lives!

**Need a Hope
Resource book?
Details on
back page.**

DEC

HOPE-FILLED VISION

SOURCE: Evangelical Alliance

FRIDAY 27TH DEC LUKE 2:21

JESUS

Sometimes we get so caught up with the busyness of the season that we forget that Jesus is the reason! He is the answer to the yearning of every human heart. Give thanks for His love, and for all He has given you. Pray today for a renewed desire to follow wherever He leads you.

SATURDAY 28TH DEC LUKE 2:25

HOLY SPIRIT

Simeon depended on the Holy Spirit's leading to be in the right place at the right time. Father, thank you for Your Spirit. May we welcome His presence afresh into our lives and communities. Teach us to wait on You for Your guidance and timing, so that we can be where You want us today.

SUNDAY 29TH DEC ISA 61:1-2

THE POOR

Lord Jesus, thank you that You cared for, lived with, and ministered to the poor. We ask that You will enable us, Your Church, to follow You, so that those who are poor may encounter You in us. Help us as Your Church to rise up with practical compassion and boldness, to share Your good news.

MONDAY 30TH DEC LUKE 4:18

RECOVERY OF SIGHT

Jesus healed those who were physically blind and those who were spiritually blind. Gracious God, give us confidence to trust in Your power. May Your Church recover the gift of praying for healing – spiritual, emotional and physical – so that many find healing in Jesus' name. Bless the many prayer healing ministries working across our nation.



TUESDAY 31ST DEC ACTS 4:31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

The dream of HOPE 2014 is to see our nation changed by the love of God. Thank God for the many HOPE prayer events this New Year. Pray that God's Spirit will inspire every believer and every church to be committed to looking outwards, meeting the needs of their communities.

WEDNESDAY 1ST JAN LUKE 4:19

YEAR OF GOD'S FAVOUR

Jesus proclaimed God's favour. It is the message of hope which the nation needs to see and hear. Lord, we pray that Your Church will be a community of boldness, proclaiming and living a message of hope and transformation. Help us make the most of every opportunity in this HOPE 2014 year of mission.

THURSDAY 2ND JAN LUKE 2:46

HOPE FOR PARENTS

Being a parent is not always easy. Father, we pray for parents today. We pray that You will give them great grace, love and limitless patience in bringing up their children. We ask that Your love will build strong relationships, especially in times of stress. Lord, we pray for hope-filled families.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Make time to follow the
news this week to find out
what national issues need
praying for.

JAN

HOPE 2014 – A YEAR OF MISSION

Source: World Prayer Centre

FRIDAY 3RD JAN ISA 45:22 HOPE FOR NATIONAL LEADERS

Father, we thank You for all those in authority – for Her Majesty the Queen and all who serve in our national and regional governments. Bless them with wisdom and understanding, and give them hearts of compassion to honour every part of our society, without prejudice. May they seek You and listen to You.

SATURDAY 4TH JAN NUM 6:24-26 BLESSINGS OF HOPE

‘Blessing’ means the favour of God: that God will help, protect and provide. It implies God’s goodwill: that we will receive only the best from God. Use these verses from Numbers 6 to bless a close friend, a family member and someone you meet today. If appropriate, tell them you’ve prayed for them.

SUNDAY 5TH JAN EPH 1:17-19 HOPE OF OUR CALLING

Father, please give Your Church in the UK the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, that we may know You better. May we know the hope of our calling, and Your incredibly great power. May we see each other as You see us – as the riches of Your glorious inheritance. (Source: Bible Society)

MONDAY 6TH JAN MATT 2:11 HOPE AT EPIPHANY

The word ‘Epiphany’ means ‘revelation’ and is linked with the visit of the wise men to the Christ-child. We pray for those of all faiths and nationalities living in our communities, that the witness of the Church during HOPE 2014 will help them to discover that Jesus is Lord of every nation, tribe and people-group.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Consider taking up a new leisure activity in your local area this year, to have fun and get to know people.

TUESDAY 7TH JAN 2 COR 5:18-19 HOPE THROUGH RECONCILIATION

Loving Father, as we meet people today, please show us why You have brought them into contact with us – perhaps because they need Your touch, because they need to know Your forgiveness, or because they need reconciliation with You or with others. May we communicate Your love both in our conversations and in our actions.

WEDNESDAY 8TH JAN COL 1:9-12 HOPE FOR OURSELVES

Let us take time today to pray for ourselves, sharing with our Father our hopes and fears for this new year. Let us ask Him to help us bear fruit in every good work, and be strengthened with all power, so that we can be people of hope in our communities.

THURSDAY 9TH JAN MATT 19:26 HOPE FOR OUR NATIONS

“The Church transforms society when it takes the risks of renewal in prayer, of reconciliation, and of confident declaration of the good news of Jesus Christ” (Archbishop Justin Welby). Let us pray for a fresh and mighty outpouring of God’s Holy Spirit throughout the Church and across our nation.

JAN

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Source: Christian Solidarity Worldwide

FRIDAY 10TH JAN ROM 8:28 PERSECUTED CHURCH

Father, we thank You that we have the freedom to worship and to share our faith without fear of threat or violence. We pray for those who are victimised because of their faith; for strength to trust You, and to tell people about You even when it feels like no-one is listening.

SATURDAY 11TH JAN MATT 19:29 COSTLY FAITH

Pray for those around the world who have lost friends, jobs, homes and even family because they have chosen to follow Jesus; for comfort in the midst of loss, provision in the midst of crisis, and courage to keep choosing Jesus, even when it seems to cost everything.

SUNDAY 12TH JAN PHM 1:7 SUPPORTING PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

Lord God, thank You for the many agencies around the world working to support those who are experiencing persecution for their faith. Show, Your Church in the UK, how we can support and resource these agencies, and stand with those suffering persecution.

MONDAY 13TH JAN 1 COR 12:26 CHRISTIANS IN CUBA

Pray for the 'Ladies in White' in Cuba, as the government continues to prevent them from attending Mass on Sundays. Pray they will sense Your powerful presence with them, and that You will intervene in their situation, so that they will be free to worship You.

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Find out about a persecuted country in the world and pray for it this week.

TUESDAY 14TH JAN PROV 31:8 UN SPECIAL RAPPOREUR

Lord, we pray for the UN Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Heiner Bielefeldt. Give him wisdom as he writes his annual report for the UN, and may his recommendations be accepted and applied by governments, so that freedom of religion or belief becomes a reality for all.

WEDNESDAY 15TH JAN 2 THESS 1:4 MIDDLE EAST

Pray for Christians in the Middle East as they face political changes, economic pressures and sectarian violence. Pray for political leaders in the region; may they act in the interests of all their citizens, without discrimination on the basis of religion.

THURSDAY 16TH JAN ISA 58:6 OPERATION 18

Pray for Christian Solidarity Worldwide's campaign "Operation 18: Upholding the right to choose your religion". Pray for those whose freedom to choose their religion or belief is under threat. Shield them from the violent words or acts of those who would oppose them, and give them Your peace.

FRIDAY 17TH JAN MATT 24:14 CLOSED COUNTRIES

Jesus promised that the Gospel would be preached throughout the whole world. Give thanks for the thousands coming to Jesus in nations where it is illegal to practise the Christian faith. Pray that this epidemic of grace will spread like wildfire throughout our world.

JAN

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Resources prepared for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

SATURDAY 18TH JAN 1 PET 2:9 TOGETHER WE ARE CALLED

“Merciful God, together with all those who call on the name of the Lord, in our brokenness we hear Your call to be saints ... By the power of Your Holy Spirit, draw us together ... and strengthen us to do Your will, and to proclaim the mighty acts of Christ Jesus our Lord.”

SUNDAY 19TH JAN PHIL 1:3-5 THANKFUL FOR GOD’S GRACE

“Most loving and gracious God, we give thanks for the gifts of Your grace that we experience in our own tradition, and in the traditions of other churches. By the grace of Your Holy Spirit, may our gratitude continue to grow, as we encounter one another and experience Your gift of unity in new ways.”

MONDAY 20TH JAN 1 COR 1:7 LACKING NO SPIRITUAL GIFT

“Faithful, open-handed God, we bless You that You have given us all the spiritual gifts we need to come to the measure of the full stature of Christ ... Help us to be signs of Your abundance, gathered in unity to bring the gifts of Your everlasting Kingdom to every place of pain and lack. “

TUESDAY 21ST JAN PS 57:10 AFFIRMING GOD’S FAITHFULNESS

As we work towards more collaboration between churches where we live, we pray:

“Faithful God, we give thanks for Your steadfast love, and Your devotedness that extends to the clouds. As we wait in joyful hope, working and praying together for the full visible unity of Your church, fill us with confidence in Your promises.”

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
Pray for each church in
your local area asking God
for a word of encouragement
to give them at the end
of the week

WEDNESDAY 22ND JAN JOHN 15:11-12 CALLED INTO FELLOWSHIP

“Father of love, You have called us into the fellowship of Your Son, and appointed us to bear fruit in our witness to the Gospel. By the grace of Your Spirit, enable us to love one another and to dwell together in unity, so that our joy may be complete.”

THURSDAY 23RD JAN 1 COR 1:10 SEEKING AGREEMENT

Today we pray about those disagreements which divide us, either within our congregations or between different churches: “Loving God, You give us prophetic witnesses in times of conflict and division. When we seek You, Lord, send us Your Holy Spirit to make us artisans of reconciliation, united in the same mind and the same purpose.”

FRIDAY 24TH JAN MARK 9:39-41 BELONGING TO CHRIST

“We give You thanks, O God, that You bless each and every member of the Body of Christ with the gifts of Your Spirit. Help us to be supportive of one another, to be respectful of our differences, and to work for the unity of all throughout the world who call upon Jesus as Lord.”



JAN

PRAYER CHALLENGE:
It's easy to 'close our eyes' to the poverty around us. What can you do to keep your eyes open this week?

POVERTY & HOMELESSNESS ACTION WEEK

Source: www.actionweek.org.uk

SATURDAY 25TH JAN PS 99:4 PRAYER AND ACTION

Poverty is a complex and daunting issue, even in a relatively wealthy nation like the UK. It can be easier to ignore it than pray about it. Give thanks for Poverty and Homelessness Action Week, and pray that God will use it to bring hope to many who feel trapped in poverty.

SUNDAY 26TH JAN DEUT 26:12 POVERTY ACTION

God has always been clear that He intends His people to give of their wealth to help those who live in poverty. On this Poverty Action Sunday, pray that Your own church will have a generous heart, and will know how to help meet the needs of those in your area who don't have enough.

MONDAY 27TH JAN PS 35:10 POVERTY AWARENESS

Poverty and Homelessness Action Week challenges all of us to notice the poverty in our own communities. Pray for those living in streets and neighbourhoods near you which are renowned for being poor or socially deprived, that light will shine in the darkness, and that the right practical solutions will be found.

TUESDAY 28TH JAN MATT 6:34 MAKING ENDS MEET

An economic crisis and a series of benefit and tax credit cuts have left many people in our nation struggling to make ends meet. Pray that God will raise up more agencies with the skills and resources to help people get out of debt, and break free from the life-draining burden of worrying about money.

WEDNESDAY 29TH JAN ISA 58:9-10 WISE GOVERNMENT

Pray today for all those serving in our Government who have the responsibility of deciding how the nation's finances should be spent, and how poverty should be tackled. As they make decisions which will have far-reaching consequences, pray that their planning will be wise and efficient, but also compassionate and generous to those in need.

THURSDAY 30TH JAN PRO 19:6 HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

Pray for young people in your community who are at risk of becoming homeless. Pray today that God will bring an adult alongside them who will help them to talk honestly about how they feel, and pray for a transformation in their circumstances so that they don't end up on the streets.

FRIDAY 31ST JAN PRO 2:8 HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT

Poverty and Homelessness Action Week culminates in Homelessness Sunday this weekend. Pray for the organisations working in your local community to support and rehouse those who have become homeless, that they will have enough volunteers to work one-to-one with clients, and that clients will stay in touch with them over the long-term.

PRAYER CONTRIBUTORS:

We would like to thank all those that contributed prayers:

Redeemed Christian Church of God, www.rccg.org

Andy Frost and Hugo Anson, Crossing London, www.crossinglondon.co.uk

Bible Society, www.biblesociety.org.uk

Roy Crowne, HOPE 2014, www.hopetogether.org.uk

Steve Clifford, Evangelical Alliance, www.eauk.org

Phil Timson, HOPE Revolution, www.hope-revolution.com

Brian Heasley, 24-7 Prayer, www.24-7prayer.com

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Jonathan Oloyede, National Day of Prayer and Worship, www.ndopw.com

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Based on background information from www.actionweek.org.uk

A hand is holding a tablet computer. The screen of the tablet displays text in two colors: teal and purple. The text is arranged in four lines, with the first three lines in teal and the last line in purple. The text is bold and slightly slanted. The background of the screen is white. The hand holding the tablet is visible on the left side, with the thumb and index finger gripping the edges. The background of the entire page is a light blue gradient.

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