Devotional

Our Greatest Challenge

I have no doubt that our greatest challenge as individuals, and as an organisation is to stay close to God. But I'm also encouraged to say that it is the easiest challenge to overcome! Now that may seem contradictory to some, however history is littered with great challenges that have quite simple solutions.

In Luke 9 we read about the overwhelming need to feed 5000 hungry people in a desolate place, yet Jesus' response was quite simple as we read in Luke 9:13 "But He said to them, "You give them something to eat!" - Complex problems can and do have simple solutions!.

Our greatest challenge of staying close to God has a very simple answer which can be found in Thessalonians 5: 17 "Pray without ceasing." This simple instruction will forever keep us close to God. We should do this as individuals, as families, and as an organisation. If we are constantly in an attitude of prayer we will always find ourselves close to God, and the closer we are to God the more likely we are to hear (and follow) his guidance and instruction.

Conversely, if we allow our conversation with God to diminish, the consequence will be that we drift away from the close companionship that we need to ensure we are listening to His voice. A significant part of hearing God is being constantly in His word. Daily study and contemplation of the Bible is a significant weapon when the enemy of God comes to attack us. When Jesus was tempted by Satan, his response on every occasion was to quote the word of God.

As a leader in this organisation I'm committed to ensuring that the most significant aspect of our ministry will always be the time we spend together before God, both in His word, and in prayer. For this reason we will be joining together on September 9th in a national day of prayer for MMM. I've asked my local church to pray for the work of MMM in their morning service on that day, I encourage you to do the same.

Prayer changes things!

Terrence Baxter.

International Prayer News

New Zealand:

Pray for unity and harmony to continue to flourish on the New Zealand project teams. Pray for more volunteers including skilled trade's people to lead teams.

Pray for the growing work in Fiji, and pray for the project teams from NZ who are planning work throughout the remainder of 2018.

Pray for Howard Robinson as he leads MMM New Zealand as National Director. Pray for insight, wisdom and guidance for him every day.

Zambia:

Pray for the finances of MMM in Zambia. Pray for the retirement of all debt, and for Gods blessing on future plans. Pray that they will have every need met (even before they ask).

Pray for Edwich Lungwebungu as Board Chairperson and all of the MMM Zambia Board members as she leads the governance and vision of MMM In Zambia.

Pray for Patrick Coleman as he leads the MMM VTC in Ndola. Pray for strategy, wisdom, and guidance as he prepares for the next intake of students.

Hong Kong:

Pray for Andrew Wong as he concludes his time with family in the USA, pray for him resumes his activities as MMM HK National Director.

Pray for Board member Betty Fung as she balances MMM ministry and work commitments in mainland China.

Pray for God's leading and direction to find new Board members to serve with MMM HK.

Thailand:

Pray for the dedication service for the Thailand property on September 29th. Pray for a great show of support for Pedro and Palita.

Pray for a clear path though the government bureaucracy and legal system to finalise the purchase of land in Chiang Rai.

Pray for Palita who is suffering from chronic heartburn. Pray for a total healing.



Praise God for the Unity, fellowship and great outcomes from the MMM International Alliance meetings in Zambia. Pray for the ongoing work of MMM around the world.

Pray for Helen Bell as she takes up responsibilities as National Prayer Co-ordinator. Pray also for her husband Graham as he supports and assists Helen in this vital role. Pray for them both as their home church prays for them on September 9th.

Continue to pray for John Cooper in Queensland as he undergoes open heart surgery on September 10th. Pray for Gods healing and strength. Pray also for Anne and the family as they walk this journey alongside John, pray that God will grant them peace and rest.

Pray that many will get involved in our MMM National Day of Prayer on Sunday September 9th. Pray that many churches around the nation will be involved by praying for us in their service on that day. Ask your church to pray for us in their service on that day.

5 Pray for MMM New Zealand National Director Howard Robinson as he visits and meets with MMM Staff in Melbourne on September 6th & 7th. Pray for much blessing and unity as he meets with CEO Terrence Baxter.

6 Pray for the Northern Safari team as they conclude their work in the Northern Territory and the far north of Western Australia. Pray for safety and protection as they travel back to their homes in the various states. Give thanks for the great job done by the Safari Team Leaders John & Joyce Blade.

Pray for the MMM Australia Board meeting on Friday September 7th. Pray for Board Chairperson Shane Prior as he leads the Board. Pray for vision and direction as they consider the future plans for MMM Australia.

Pray for the finances of MMM, pray for good stewardship and wisdom as our national team administer what God has graciously provided. Pray for our fundraising teams as they serve God in their gifts and skills. Pray for God to continue to provide for our daily needs.

Praise God for his answer to our prayers for Volunteers in our National Office roles and also in our project teams and regional offices. God is good! Pray that many new project volunteers will get involved in the coming months to continue the great work of MMM around the nation.

10 Pray for Shane Prior as he takes up a two year appointment as Chairperson of the MMM International Alliance. Praise God for the great work done by Bruce Alchin (NZ) over the past two years as Chairperson.

Pray for Hendrick and Irene Alberts as they serve God in Western Australia. Pray for them to know joy and blessings in their service as MMM volunteers in Western Australia. Pray they will both know peace and joy as they serve with passion on the Western Australia Committee.

12 Pray for the families of MMM Associates and volunteers who have recently been promoted to Glory. Pray for them as they grieve the loss of their loved ones, pray that God will be their comfort and strength.

13 Praise God for the support of those who give financially to the work of MMM Australia. Praise him for the heart of generosity He instils in His believers that allows the work of the gospel to continue and grow. Pray for God's blessing on everyone who supports MMM financially.

Ephesians 6: 18 "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit"

Pray for our CEO Terrence Baxter. Pray that he will know God's wisdom and guidance as he goes about the many activities around the nation. Pray for safe travels, pray for opportunities to promote MMM, and pray for good health and strength.

15 Continue to pray for spiritual protection over our Region Managers as they go about the Lords work in the Mission. Pray that they will know both the wisdom and strength of the Lord every day, pray for provision of finances, pray for all their needs to be met – even before they ask.

 $16^{\rm Pray}$ for opportunities to share the story and blessings of MMM in churches and at missions events . Pray for skilled Ambassadors to carry out this activity around the nation.

17 Pray for the national projects administration team as they process the many requests for assistance we receive. Pray for wisdom and guidance as they consider what action & advice is needed on each request.

18 Pray for each of the regional committees as they support Region Managers in the planning of work, fundraising, safety, security, and prayer support. Pray for the Chairpersons of each of the committees.

19 Pray for each of the MMM Board Members. Give thanks for their availability to serve God in Christian mission. Give thanks for the unity & vision of our MMM Board. Pray that our Board members will experience the unabated joy of service in their roles.

20 Pray for Diane Jenkins as she finishes her service with MMM after 6 years as finance manager. Give thanks for her diligent work and wisdom in administering our finances. Praise God for Flora Fung who has volunteered with MMM as our new Finance Manager and for Peter Johnston who will assist from time to time.