## **Devotional**

## Vision Beyond the Stone!

Matthew 27: 59-61 "Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away. And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the grave."

It would be easy to see in this picture that Mary Magdalene and the other Mary sat dejected as events unfolded in front of them. Soldiers sealing the grave of Jesus. Everything they had hope for and believed in was now dead on the other side of the stone. The problem here is the Mary couldn't see the other side of the stone.

"Vision" is a gift from God. It allows us to see what is not yet in place, it allows us to plan for what has not yet occurred. But vision is only activated by faith, and faith must have its outworking through works or it is dead!

Sometimes our vision is blocked by the stone, and we cannot see beyond the stone to what God is doing. While Mary sat opposite the stone, somewhat sad & dejected, life eternal was being wrought on the other side. We should not be too harsh on Mary, it's easy for us because we have the privilege or knowing that chapter 28 was about to happen!

I like to think that Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were praying earnestly whilst sitting opposite the stone. When we can't see the outcomes but we know what God can do we should be praying earnestly for His will to prevail in the hearts and hands of men

The bible says that the effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Can I encourage you to pray effectively, fervently for the work of MMM and for our needs.... Stay in touch with God on behalf of MMM.

Much Blessings

Terrence Baxter.

# International Prayer News

#### New Zealand:

Praise God for the purchase of the Pirongia property where the MMM NZ base has been for many years.

Praise God for significant financial donations committed so far. Pray for the remaining funds to be provided.

Pray for the work in Fiji as the current leaders Jarod & Katy conclude their time in Fiji and return to New Zealand. Pray for new leaders, pray also for Jarod and Katy as they prepare to leave their tropical paradise and return home to NZ.

#### Zambia:

Pray for National Leader Florence as she manages the various operations and administration of MMM Zambia.

Pray for the finances of MMM in Zambia. Pray for funds to retire the legacy debt and to pay all staff as needed. Pray for good stewardship and wisdom. Pray that they will have every need met.

Pray for Patrick Coleman as he leads the MMM VTC in Ndola. Pray for the intake of new students for the coming semester.

### Hong Kong:

Pray for great wisdom and insight as the MMM HK Board seek direction and guidance for future appointments to the board and key positions of leadership for this region.

Pray for the significant outreach work through projects into mainland China.

Pray for new project volunteers to help with the many projects being proposed.

#### Thailand:

Pray for the planning and establishment of Mission Awareness Tours for Thailand in 2019. Pray for wisdom and guidance as the team plan for project teams from Australia and other countries.

Keep praying for Palita as she works though the government bureaucracy to purchase the land.

Praise God for a wonderful prayer service dedicating the land to the work of the Lord through MMM. Pray for much fruit from this investment.



Exciting things are happening... in Tasmania on September 30<sup>th</sup>, local MMM have the opportunity to be part of a small expo on missions at the largest church in Launceston. Please pray for this opportunity to open connections and awareness to others of MMM.

Tasmania's upcoming events include a garage sale on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for God's abundant blessing on the whole day —we need good weather, more donations to come in and an abundance of people calling in to ensure a bumper fundraiser event.

Praise God for good results for John Cooper in Queensland, the heart operation went well and the surgeon is happy with the results. Although John is home again and going ok, prayer is still needed for complete healing that his heart will go into the right rhythm and steady.

Praise God that the Northern Safari team have finished the planned work in NT and WA and most are home again. Give thanks for John and Joyce Blade's leadership of the team. Pray for the rest for the teams and blessings for everyone involved for all of their hard work.

Pray for wisdom for Adrian Behrens as he leads jobs in QLD in the next few months and for volunteers to be available to assist him. Prayer for safety on the pro-

6 The 2019 WA Wildflower Caravan Safari – Pray for the organizing of each project and wisdom in planning, pray for volunteers to participate, pray that volunteers with the right skills will be moved by God to join the Safari.

jects for all MMM teams.

WA Fundraising Activities – pray for those who give of their time and effort to ensure that these days are successful. Pray for people to come and join in. Pray for inspiration and guidance to what new fundraising activities could be arranged. Pray for the Christmas Shopping tour fundraiser in October.

Project Volunteers - Pray for new volunteers to come forth and use their skills to 'Serve those who Serve'. WA has a very small volunteer base so this is always their biggest need. Pray for wisdom for the Committee in how to attract new persons to the ministry of MMM.

Pray for each of our Region Managers. Pray for God's provision for their every need; pray also for wisdom and strength as they manage the various activities of MMM in their regions. Pray for Shane & Ruth Goelst, Greg & Robyn Jackson, John & Anne Cooper, Geoff Jarvis, Trevor & Karen Beard.

10 Continue to pray for our CEO Terrence Baxter in his busy schedule around the nation, pray for him as he speaks at various events and conferences. Pray that the message of 'serving those who serve' will have great impact and be fruitful for the work of MMM.

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.

12 Pray for the chairpersons of our regional committee's for all they do in supporting the role of our region Managers. Pray for the regional committee's as they co-ordinate the various activities at a state level. Pray for Paul Barnham (NSW), Hendrik Alberts (WA), Graham Kapinga (Qld), David Graham (Vic), John de Jonge (Tas).

13 Pray for our MMM Associates programme as it grows in numbers and importance to our overall operations. Pray for a national co-ordinator for the Associates programme to take up the challenge of administering this significant ministry.

Pray for all of our Team Leaders as they manage the various projects around the nation. Pray for more leaders to be developed and released into fruitful service in the work of MMM.

15 Pray for our finances, that God will provide for all our needs through his grace and mercy. .

Pray for our fundraising teams as they serve God in their gifts and skills. Pray for good stewardship of every dollar we are entrusted with.

16 Pray for the finances of MMM Australia. Pray that God will provide the finances to balance the budget in this financial year. Pray for Flora Fung, our new Finance Manager as she settles in and manages the finances.

17 Pray for spiritual protection over our Region Managers as they go about the Lords work in the Mission. Pray that they will know the strength of the Lord when attacks come to distract them from their calling and mission. Pray that they are rested and restored over the holiday season coming up.

18 Pray for opportunities to share the MMM vision and mission in churches across Australia. Pray for gifted ambassadors who can succinctly and clearly present the MMM message and for it to inspire a new generation of volunteers and supporters.

19 Pray for Sarah Boswell as she comes on board as MMM Social Media and Web content administrator. Praying for wisdom and creativity, as she updates our Facebook page, and content management on our Website.

20 Pray for more prayer partners in MMM prayer fellowships across Australia. Pray that prayer goes before every aspect of our mission including projects, fundraising and administration. Pray for opportunities to establish more prayer fellowships around the nation.