

Devotional

Hi wonderful Prayer Partners,

I love seeing the beauty that comes as flowers and trees burst into bloom throughout the season of Spring. The environment reflects the glory of its Creator but sadly many do not acknowledge who created the world and everything in it. It is the season when many animals give birth. Today I watched two sparrows flying around and then seeking refuge from the rain on the outside light under our verandah. Periodically they flew out briefly and then retreated to their undercover perch.

This reminded me of the verse from **Psalms 91:4** *"The Lord will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."*

Merriam-Webster's definition of rampart is "a protective barrier: bulwark". The King James Dictionary states rampart as "fortification". The concordance in the NIV Study Bible states that rampart is a "metaphor for the protective outreach of God's power."

David prays when he had fled from Saul into the cave.

Psalms 57:1 *"Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed."*

The following verses also talk of taking refuge under God's wings: **Psalms 36:7, 57:1, 61:4, 63:7, Ruth 2:12**

The views and beliefs in Australia's society today have the potential to cause Christians to become fearful as we see Satan's influence and bondage of many. We must hold firmly to God's truths and seek refuge under the protective outreach of God's power. God's faithfulness will be our shield and rampart. Our God is faithful to us and he and his promises can be trusted implicitly. We can confidently stand against our oppressors and we need to pray for them to receive the love of Jesus Christ.

In our nation it is becoming more difficult to live as a Christian, with persecution being more prevalent and our freedoms being greatly impacted. As we all know, so many followers of Jesus Christ throughout the world have endured horrific persecution and discrimination but like Paul have been steadfast in their belief in God Almighty whose faithfulness is their shield and rampart. Nothing can separate us from spending eternity with God. We have been blessed to have our country founded on Christianity but very sadly those who are rejecting God seem to have no idea of the eternal consequences of their choices.

God's faithfulness is our shield and rampart - a protective barrier created by his power. Praise God that as we cry out to God our soul can take refuge and have protection in the shadow of His wings - despite what unbelievers might hurl at us.

Love and blessings - Jane

International Prayer News

Prayer requests

- for God to meet all the needs of each International Centre and their ministry and richly bless the Directors, all the staff, volunteers and the ministries they assist.
- for all Directors to lead and manage the growth of MMM and their staff well and be filled with patience, love and encouragement and share this with others.
- for God's guidance and wisdom for the International Board at their meeting in Hong Kong in October.

New Zealand

Prayer requests

- for the current MMM New Zealand News to inspire people to get involved in serving with MMM.
- for more connection's with churches and church mission committees throughout New Zealand and more youth to be encouraged to go on teams.
- for needed volunteers for a painting project at Pakuranga Christian Fellowship in New Zealand, starting October 2nd.

Fiji

Prayer requests

- for more team members for Bless the Pastors project in Fiji (28th October - 11 November)
- for Jarrod and Katy Alexander (MMM Fiji Project Coordinators) to continue to build good relationships with those in Fiji.
- for God's sustaining and encouragement for the Alexander family who are missing home and family.

Zambia

Prayer requests

- the Vocational Training Centre staff at the MMM Zambia campus in Ndola to be a pleasing witness to the Lord for the students they are teaching.
- the steel rolling machine at MMM Zambia to be able to be sold now that it is operational.

Hong Kong

Prayer request

- for safe travel and good health for all at HK's 20th Anniversary celebration on October 29th and a great time of thanksgiving to God and fellowship together.

South Africa

Prayer request

- for safety for Neil Eichsdadt, (South Africa Projects Manager) as he travels to oversee different projects around South Africa.

PrayerForce

October 2017



MMM Australia

1 Praise God Almighty for his wonderful faithfulness and goodness to MMM. Pray for a flood of generous support for MMM's finances. Give thanks for all who have blessed MMM with donations and resources.

2 Pray for God's wisdom, guidance sustaining and blessings for Terrence Baxter (*CEO*). Give thanks for the safe arrival on September 30th of a healthy, third grandson, Ben, for our CEO Terrence Baxter and his wife Sue and that mum, Lauren, dad, John and brother Tom are all doing really well. Pray these boys will grow to be Godly men.

3 **VIC** Pray for God's peace and sustaining for Associates Marilyn Wilson and her husband Ian who is now in palliative care, locally, due to his aggressive brain tumour. Give thanks for Graeme Hayman (*volunteer from New Zealand*) helping Geoff Jarvis (*Manager on his first team leading job*) along with Owen Bayliss and Ian and Kath Knowles on the project at Nyora Baptist Church. Pray for the project at Lighthouse Church in Morwell, starting on October 2nd, installing a kitchen donated by MMM, to progress really well and safely.

4 **SA** Pray for a reigniting of passion in people to be involved with MMM in SA so projects can be done there. Pray for urgently needed volunteers to come forward very soon so the project at Happy Valley Baptist Church can commence in early October (2nd or 9th).

5 **NSW** Pray for the workers needed for the projects scheduled for the remainder of this year. Praise God for Greg and Robyn Jackson being willing to take on the Manager's role for the NSW region in October. Pray for God's peace and provisions for them.

6 Pray for a great response to the Associate's letter sent out regarding fees and for purposeful involvement in one or more of the five key areas of support for all MMM Associates. Pray for a person to take on the role of National Associates Co-ordinator.

7 Pray for a person of God's choosing to come forward to be the National Prayer Co-ordinator as Jane is stepping down from this role at the end of this year.

8 **QLD** Pray for God's peace for Jessie Cooper (*daughter of MMM Qld Managers*) regarding her work in the lead up to her marriage to Bert on October 7th. Pray for fine weather for the wedding and a great family time together after the tragic death of 2 year old Willow. Pray for John Cooper's niece and her husband to seek God after the devastating loss of their daughter, Willow. Pray for safe travel and good health for everyone travelling with the Coopers to India from October 10th to 19th.

9 Praise God for Dave Kenyon (*volunteer*) designing our new "Walder" database and the great assistance it is to staff. Give thanks for our CEO working with Dave to improve this system even further.

10 **TAS** Give thanks for Shane and Ruth Goelst and for their appointment as Tasmania's fulltime volunteer Managers. Pray for a smooth relocation for them and their younger children (*11 and 14 y.o*) from Victoria to Tasmania on October 7th. Praise God for their contacts and the tradesmen (*who have worked with them*) that will help on MMM projects.

11 **Thailand** Pray for good progress on the final stages of construction and fit out of the Boys Home for Shoulder2Shoulder that Pedro is Project Managing in Thailand. Praise God for the encouraging change in Palita's cousin and that he is reading the Bible.

12 Pray for the MMM Board members to know God's clear guidance with all decisions they make to govern MMM. Pray for his protection and rich blessings on them.

13 Praise God for the great progress of long time Associates Peter Damm after his recent open heart surgery and Mary Jones after knee reconstruction.

Nehemiah 4 :15 then all of us returned to the wall, each one to his work.

14 Give thanks for administration volunteer, Sutha, who sends out thank you letters to our donors and helps with other administration tasks in our Mitcham office. Pray for her husband Jay, who is legally blind, and for God's provisions for Sutha, Jay and their two children.

15 Praise God for over 60 registered participants in our National Day of Prayer on September 20th, with constant prayer from 6.30am until 11pm (*except for 5 slots around evening meal time*). Praise God for all MMM's prayer warriors and God's grace in answering our prayers. Pray for more prayer groups to be formed and meet on a regular basis at each Region Centre and other locations.

16 **VIC/SA** Pray for Geoff Jarvis (*Vic/SA Region Manager*) and the Committee planning the Garage Sale at Mitcham on October 21st. Pray for God's favour on this event. Pray for more high quality items for sale to be sourced or donated. Pray for sufficient helpers with setup and on the day of the sale and safety for all present.

17 Pray for safe travel and safety on the worksite for all MMM'ers. Pray for safety and good health for Terrence Baxter, Geoff Jarvis and others who are going to Hong Kong for MMMHK's 20th anniversary on October 29th.

18 Pray for God's blessings, favour and encouragement for all the organizations MMM undertakes projects for and for each ministry to be very fruitful in their kingdom building endeavours. Praise God for all our project team members.

19 Pray for effective promotion of MMM resulting in more volunteers becoming involved and more opportunities for projects to bless other ministries. Pray for the MMM website redesign to be completed soon.

20 **QLD** Pray for suitable volunteers to commit to the 2018 Safari and for all the planning of projects and the schedule, by the Coopers and Behrens, to progress really well.