



The Salvation Army
NZ, Fiji, Tonga & Samoa
Women's Ministries



Te Ope Whakaora



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Cover art by Sabrina David

VISIT

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Suffrage means both intercessory prayers and the legal right to vote.

On September 19th 2018, Aotearoa celebrated 125 years of women's suffrage, when we became the first country in the world where the tireless efforts of women were rewarded with the right to vote.

The Salvation Army New Zealand Women's Ministries called on women all throughout the nation to preach either side of this date in celebration.

This collection of intercessory prayers was written by Women's Ministries' Rosy Keane for the women who responded to that call.

This book is also for every woman and man who responds to the call of God, every day, no matter the cost, from here to eternity.



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May the words of
your mouth and the
meditation of your
heart be acceptable
in the Lord's sight;
our Rock and our
Redeemer.

Bless you persister
as you seek to
thoughtfully and
rightly divide the Word
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of God.

1.

'I have fought the good fight, I
have finished the race, I have
kept the faith.' - 2 Timothy 4:7

May your life be
and continue to be
and always be
the good fight,

the endurance race and
be
keeping on
keeping on
keeping the faith.

Bless you for the ways you
minister in the unseen, and fix
your eyes on the invisible.

That is the faith we long for and
that will keep you persisting to
the end. Bless you, persister.

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'I have fought the good fight, I
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42.

May the Lord continue to wrap all the ingredients you are preparing, folding them in his hands like so much flour and cinnamon and whatever else makes something delicious!

May the constant turning over in your mind and heart of the words of the Lord reassure you, that God is baking bread that will be broken and return 100 fold, like the miracle with the widow and oil in 2 Kings, or the little boy's fish and loaves in the New Testament.

God gives good food to the ones who follow!

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God gives good food to the ones who follow!

41.

'The owl will nest there and lay eggs, she will hatch them, and care for her young under the shadow of her wings; there also the falcons will gather, each with its mate.' - Isaiah 34:15

May the wings-arms of the Lord be with yours, as you reach out to cover and surround, bless and not curse those in your care.

May the Lord show himself faithful on your tongue and in the Spirit that rests on the flock under your care.

May you know that you yourself are under the Lord's care, providence and protection,

beloved one.

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2.

May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord cause his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, may the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Bless you persister.

Your tireless work is carving the way for women who minister in the name of Jesus to go forwards, undaunted. We're proud of you and cheering you on!

Blessing you, blessing you,
blessing you!

3.

What delight the Lord takes in you persister! We pray that the joy, hope and 'frazzlement' (not a word, but go with us) of your faith will be a testimony to God's faithfulness in your life.

May your careful and joyful dividing of the Word of God inspire a tender and tentative love in others, that they too might reach out and touch;
the desire of God for their lives,
the heart of God for their spirits and the hope of God for their world.

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40.

The voice of Hagar, the voice of Tamar, the voice of Phoebe, the voice of Eve, the voice of Joanna - so, so many women crying out and proclaiming the ways of God to be good.

Praise the Lord for your foremothers, whose lives preaches as loud as her words.

May the Lord rest upon you in a weighty way, one that makes you feel weightless with God's love!

Bless you for testifying of your mothers' and sisters-in-the-faith's courage... you are like Ruth to Naomi, faithfully journeying, proclaiming, uplifting.

39.

The voice of Hagar, the voice of Tamar, the voice of Phoebe, the voice of Eve, the voice of Joanna - so, so many women crying out and proclaiming the ways of God to be good.

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39.

'The lotuses conceal it in their shadow; the poplars by the stream surround it. A raging river does not alarm it; it is secure, though the Jordan should surge against its mouth. Can anyone capture it by the eyes, or trap it and pierce its nose?'
- Job 40:21-24

If even the Behemoth is concealed, surrounded, supported and not slain - may you be, even more so, as God's precious and treasured possession, in possession of the Holy Spirit and the treasure of the Word of Hope, the Word of Salvation.

God is with you, for you and not against you. May there be no rod for your back, and no uneven path, but in all your ways may you rest secure as you seek counsel with the Lord God Almighty, the King of the Most High.

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4.

The ferocity of the magnifying glass is not just in making the obscure bigger, but refining the light and power to start a fire in that focused spot!

May the power and transparency of the Word, combined with the tight focus of the Holy Spirit and the spiritual discipline you practice, be a fire-starter of revival in your Corps, of new hope for reconciliation and a new revolution of love in the family of God.

5.

'He leads me beside quiet waters' it says in Psalm 23:2.

May the quiet of the waters refresh your soul. May the love of the Lord slake your thirst. May the healing pools of the Lord wet your hands and dry your tears when you journey in the wasteland.

Bless you persister, as you journey as John the Baptist, and Hagar, into the desert places, to see the name of God praised and the people in your care fed.

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38.

'Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.'

- Luke 12:27

May the God who clothes even the weeds and grass with the splendor of the heavens, array you in the beauty of an unclouded mind, a sharpened intellect and a heart that seeks his face.

May your words be as sharpened arrows that pierce the enemy's armour, that shatter walls and prisons that house captives and may your blessings be as honey that heal.

Invite people to the waters of life - you're the prophet they have been waiting for.

They are ready.

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37.

'How long will you go here and there, O faithless daughter? For the LORD has created a new thing in the earth - A woman will encompass a man.' - NAS Translation

May your words be a timely encouragement. May your words be like a music box - perfectly honed in the cylinder of God's love, knowing you are delivering a message that harmonises and has been shaped in the furnace of God's own heart, and as you preach and pray and prophesy may you know the power of the Holy Spirit plucking up those themes seamlessly.

We gather in heaping blessing upon you, praying protection on any places of fragility and that your humility is never a curse, but a great recommendation in the eyes of God and a banner of honour and strength.

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6.

'This is what the Lord GOD says: 'Behold, I will lift up My hand to the nations, and raise My banner to the peoples.

They will bring your sons in their arms and carry your daughters on their shoulders. Kings will be your foster fathers, and their queens your nursing mothers.

They will bow to you face-down and lick the dust at your feet. Then you will know that I am the LORD; those who hope in Me will never be put to shame.'" - Isaiah 49:22-23

Your life is a 'because God is... so must I be'. Your life is a testimony to ceaseless trusting, even before the dust has settled and the smoke has cleared.

The Lord sees you and knows you by name, and you will never be put to shame. May you wipe the dust off your feet of times gone by when the way of the Lord hasn't been observed and you have been a faithful watch-keep.

Never give up the warning prophesy and the hopeful entreaty.

We see you and we are proud of you. Thank you for your faithful service.

7.

'Lift up the standard, raise the banner higher! So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.' - Isaiah 59:19

May your colours run red with the blood of Jesus, and may you know that the wind that lifts the standard is through the Holy Spirit's power alone. May you know that the warpaint you wear was worn by the son of God, and that he counts himself blessed to have you in his ranks - he rejoices over you and blesses you with his seal for the day of redemption.

May your feet be swift and the word be sure. God will shut the mouths of alligators that lay in wait, just as he did with lions that sought the flesh of the faithful. God sees, and hears, and knows, and loves you.

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36.

'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.' - Jeremiah 6:16

May God open your eyes and heart to the overgrown jungle paths, and if you already see them - then may he strengthen your battle-axe so your arms don't get tired, as you hack away old dreams, old ideas, old tradition to reveal the oldest way of all for us to walk in... the Way of love, justice and all truth.

May the Holy Spirit speak tenderly to her as you journey.

35.

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.'
- Romans 15:13

The power of the Holy Spirit in delivering you, in hope! May there be no condemnation and no reservation that stands in the way of your clear, uninhibited, powerful exposition of the word of God! May every gulf between human understanding, intellect, grace or separation be traversed through the powerful reckoning of the blood of the Lamb, no wall too high and no sinner beyond the realm of hearing the word of grace on your lips.

Bless you as pack your picnic of Holy bread, precious blood and eternal water for the faithful to be revived on. May in the preparing be just as much rejoicing personally, as there will be corporately, as you unpack and devour together as a family of believers.

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8.

‘Everyone who lives on milk is still an infant, inexperienced in the message of righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained their sensibilities to distinguish good from evil.’
- Hebrews 5:13-14

May your hands be steady and sure as you break the Bread of the word, as you tell of your experience of Christ and the good word of hope he has laid up/ stored in your heart!

May the baking be fruitful as you seek the Lord in all your ways and spend time in the quiet place, in the War Room of your own making, by yourself with the Saviour who loves, sees and redeems you with no qualms!

Let your hand be steady as you hold out the hand of friendship, as you extend the gift of hospitality and the love of all nations, Jesus Christ.

9.

‘Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister; and call understanding thy kinswoman’ - Proverbs 7:4

May the sisterhood you are called to be marked by a supernatural, intimate grace and a familiar knowledge of the Gospel and the Saviour’s voice. May your conversations that spill out outside the doors be a blessing to all humankind, and may everyone who sees you call you blessed, as you are a sister of the Lord and he loves you!

Bless you as you prepare, read, reap and sow, and may it be no ‘old harvest’ - but a fresh one daily, as you go out to the fields to glean the new crops Jesus has worked on overnight. We bless you!

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'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.' - Acts 2:17

May your words be a bubbling brook that invites all who hear it to come and drink of the Lord - that the aged would hear your words of wisdom and find new life, and the young would hear the word of the Lord and be blessed.

May your paths be straight and narrow to the Holy place, and the wastelands would have no place near you. May all who hear your testimony of God's faithfulness rise and call you blessed.

May your children be brought near to the Lord, and the backs of the aged and weary be strengthened and encouraged. Bless the places you nurture and encourage. May your very marrow know and testify to the love of Jesus Christ.

33.

'For all the promises of God are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through Him, our 'Amen' is spoken to the glory of God. Now it is God who establishes both us and you in Christ. He anointed us, placed His seal on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a pledge of what is to come' - 2 Corinthians 1:20-22

May your amens, sermons and murmurs of the heart be spoken 'to the glory of God'. Let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and the quiet pain, hope, passion of your self not be futile, but know it is investment in the soil of the Kingdom of God.

May the fruit of your lips provide nourishment to souls desperate for a revelation of the kingdom of glory. May the praise of your mind in spite of all odds be the testimony of Job and Jonah and Rahab and Anna - people who knew loss and persevered anyway, trusting that the Lord would see it through, in the end and after all.

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The Lord reveals himself
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May your hands not grow
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May the words of the enemy
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of faith and your words
from God strike true in the
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May the words of the enemy
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32.

Sisters in Christ, we write to you with much joy and hope, knowing that he who promised is faithful and will do it, and that he calls you to speak without consternation or foreboding, but knowing you are messengers in the whakapapa of Elizabeth, Anna, Mary, Mary, Phoebe, Huldah, Joanna, Junia, Priscilla and all our persisters in the faith.

We thank God for you when we think of you, and remember your kindness to one another and the members of the Body. We pray God will continue to pour out generously into every empty vessel, in the tradition of the widow with the oil in 1 Kings.

May your halls be heated and filled with the smell of hospitality and beauty, but more than that may the halls of your hearts be fragrant from having spent time with the Lord.

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We thank God for you, and this hymn comes to mind:

‘And can it be that I should gain
An int’rest in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?’

We pray that there would be a cause for ‘sneezing’, that so much of the love of God and power of his holy name would begin to happen as you pray, prophesy and praise that the people can’t avoid it - like pollen in the air! And they would sneeze because they inhale so much of the Holy Ghost!

May the Lord lead you in all humility and grace, and may those who have long since lost the fervor of the Lord find reignited sparks in their inmost spiritual being because of the Love that pours from you. May you know and learn more of Christ daily.

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12.

'Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.'
- John 12:24

May the God who blesses and keeps you also cause death to the old and new things to sprout.

May there be a shedding of skin, and a willing one at that, at your Corps, as the people who are called by God's name refuse to withhold anything from his service.

When the call that you are dreading goes forth for all to give up their lives to follow Him, may you rest easy knowing not only is this the Lord's work you are doing, but some work is only the Lord's work, and he will accomplish it for himself for the glory of his name only.

Bless you. Fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith - as in 2 Timothy 4:7.

Do not tire or grow weary of doing good, but keep going for the day appointed for the harvest of the Lord is near,

sister!

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When the call that you are dreading goes forth for all to give up their lives to follow Him, may you rest easy knowing not only is this the Lord's work you are doing, but some work is only the Lord's work, and he will accomplish it for himself for the glory of his name only.

Bless you. Fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith - as in 2 Timothy 4:7.

Do not tire or grow weary of doing good, but keep going for the day appointed for the harvest of the Lord is near,

sister!

13.

Greetings to you our sister!
We pray that this letter finds you well and the Lord is continuing in his everlasting faithfulness to you, as always.

We pray and see the Lord 'underscoring' your life's mission, once again revealing that his plan for you has never changed, altered or wavered, just as his love, grace and mercy that he showers over you has never ceased.

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30.

May the words of your mouth,
fruit of your lips, the children
you foster in your spirit
and the women you stride
alongside all be bathed in the
oil of the anointing, the oil of
joy.

May the zeal of the Lord
overcome you by signs and
wonders he peppers (like a
steak) that instill a girlish
expectation, fresh and new -
an expectation that the risen
Lord will once again surprise,
excite, rouse and reveal the
vision of the Army you harbor
in your heart!

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'May the God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace as you trust in him, so that you
may overflow with hope by the power of the
Holy Spirit.'

May the God of ceaseless courage wake you
up with tenderness in the morning and lay
you down in faithfulness in the evening.

May your life stand as testimony to his
never failing you yet.

May the Word of the Lord be as
replenishing as the conversation of the
Samaritan women at the well with Christ,
'Come and see he who told me everything I
ever did!'

May the tender flock of sheep be gathered
under the wings of the Almighty and may
your words be filled with gentle, creative,
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Holy Spirit was as s/he hovered over the
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14.

What a panoply of sisters who stand in line to guard the faith and keep the word! We are so happy to hear you are once again taking the platform to faithfully render the word, knowing the word is never rendered void because of the love and faithfulness of God.

May you set forth the truth earnestly. May the Lord be your rearguard.

May you never know what it is to hunger and thirst spiritually because the Lord keep you as Hagar, as the woman at the well, as the widow in 1 Kings, as Tamar, as Dinah, as all the women who the Lord continues to see, and record, and bless, and rejoice over.

15.

May the way of your mouth and your heart be blessed and fruitful, as you delight in the Lord's orchard, carrying out the Good News as he desires, to all who labour.

May the way of rest be easy, and may pain leave and be far from you. May your hope in the resurrection, and the one who calls, enables and guarantees it, never grow dim.

May your light be strong and speak plainly to those who believe that all hope is futile. May the Word of God and the Spirit's sword strike true.

May you rely on God for your armour in battle and may the praise of your lips protect you from the evil one, as you exalt the Lord in his beauty and righteousness.

Make way for the Lord, travel to the temple, let us go to the house of prayer.

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Make way for the Lord, travel to the temple, let us go to the house of prayer.

28.

The Lord reveals himself
and delights in those
who earnestly seek him.
May your hands not grow
weary or your spirit faint
as you climb the mounts
to meet with the Lord.

May the words of the
enemy be sifted like
wheat, your spirit
guarded by the shield
of faith and your words
from God strike true in
the hearts of the faithful.

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We rise together as one and call you
blessed.

We ask that God would continue
to shut the mouths of lions and
perform wonderful acts of healing,
provide spaces of contemplation and
unite your members of the Body
together to raise the roof in worship.

May the prayers of the people be
constant and wise, and may Wisdom
be counted as their friend. May
any legal or community-based
prayers, needs and considerations
be supernaturally answered as you
seek the will of the Lord and enjoy
the favor of Christ the Son and Song.

Blessings to you, we gather in
prayer and praise over your people
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16.

May you truly be as one renamed of the Lord - like the Sons of Thunder and the Daughter of Abraham - and let the language of your lips be shaped by the Great Interpreter of Heaven, the Holy Spirit, who speaks on behalf of our hearts in unutterable groanings that we can't express.

May your intercession harmonize with the intercession of Jesus himself. May you be in tune with the flow of the Spirit.

May you grow grace unto grace and favour in the eyes of others and the Lord, as you submit yourself willingly to the task.

And above all, may you speak the language of love as you pray, intercept, exposit, pray and prose. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your speech and paths, like the stars and the way to heaven.

17.

May the Lord bring refreshment in barren places, parched lands and desolate ruins.

May the land overflow with the tune from so long ago, one that is caught in snatches on the wind until the full heavenly army is revealed as singing it in chorus.

May the prayer and praise of your heart never go unanswered and may the Saviour draw you in deeper revelation of himself as you retire in the quiet place with him.

May the peoples' grief, triumph, trauma and joy not be lost on you, but may you journey together with them (as always) knowing yours is not the burden to bear alone.

The Saviour sees, knows and loves.

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26.

We write of 1 John 4:12 'No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.'

May you wait upon the Lord with your tithes and offerings, of service and love and time well spent in the presence of those who seek help, but not yet the Lord. May your eyes be strong in the kingdom and language of love. May you be rich in compassion and mercy, may your judgments be fair and fierce in the face of injustice. May Love himself bind you, your family, your corps, your ministry and your whole self in perfect unity with the Son, through the power of the Holy Spirit who intercedes on our heart's behalf.

In all these things, we thank God and praise His name for you, and rejoice with all the believers for the time draws near to see the revealed Lord. Keep loving the stranger, for there you have loved the Lord.

25.

Viola Blincoe, a woman from early 1900s army in NZ - she transformed communities, homes, health systems, corps, THQ, everything she touched turned to gold (eventually).

When she died, written in her obituary was 'She had a warrior Spirit'.

Our Lord Jesus, lover of our souls, has a warrior Spirit, one he has placed in you. Like Father, like daughter, we say over you.

And so it is with this we write this blessing over you, as Christ did in the sky the day you were born dear heart,

'Whenever I am afraid,
I will trust in You.
In God (I will praise His word),
In God I have put my trust;
I will not fear.
What can flesh do to me?'
- Psalm 56:3-4

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18.

Bless you for your sustained service, and your commitment to only deliver words that will provide sustenance.

We know that in all things, God works together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose and love him. Your life stands as testimony to the fruit of the Spirit - and we pray that as people look upon the cornucopia of beautiful fruit the Lord has wrought in your life, they would feel shame for not having reached out to Him sooner - shame quickly wiped away as you open streets

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Bless you for your faithful service in delivering the word of the Lord to others. We know that the Lord blesses and keeps those who serve him, and that his word does not falter, fall short or fail.

We pray that as the word goes forth like the rains, it will fall on a great many hearts - that the harvest be plentiful, even when it feels the workers are few.

We know that she who seeks after wisdom finds life, and so we pray you would seek wisdom, and be richly blessed in relationship with the Lord, the Word and the Sword of the Spirit.

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How could she have known that her one act of faithfulness would cause hundreds of thousands to inherit the Kingdom of God?

Many say the 'Mary did you know?' song is redundant, because Mary DID know (the angel told her), and yet how could she have known that her one act of faithfulness would cause hundreds of millions to inherit the kingdom of God?

Lord, we uplift our sister - she who is faithful, you show yourself faithful to.

Reveal yourself in the Eventide, in the morning, in the overcrowded dwelling places and movies and markets.

Reveal to her your place and acts of faithfulness, the whakapapa of fire-starters she is from - that her offering too, will cause a great many to inherit the Kingdom of God.

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of gold to those who will seek him.

May the Lord raise up workers in the field - again, so great is the harvest and so few are the hands to help, but may he strengthen yours and add to your number daily.

Well done, good and faithful servant.

May you be like Jacob, Huldah, Anna, Elizabeth and Sarah - may you be as Hannah, calling upon the Lord in the day of your salvation, and he will deliver you.

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'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' - Romans 15:13

And Shakespeare to finish, because you inspire on every level:

'So, on my soul, he did, for aught he knew.
But wherefore do you droop? Why look you sad?
Be great in act, as you have been in thought;
Let not the world see fear and sad distrust
Govern the motion of a [queenly] eye:
Be stirring as the time; be fire with fire;
Threaten the threatener and outface the brow
Of bragging horror: so shall inferior eyes,
That borrow their behaviors from the great,
Grow great by your example and put on
The dauntless spirit of resolution.'

21.

May the Holy Spirit rain like fire over the lives of those who receive the Word of God from you.

We are praying that the hearts will be ready and open, minds attentive and that you will find sweet inspiration and rest in the lead up.
Go for it, WW (wonder woman).

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